

Coot attacks young duck.—While at the North American waterfowl pond in the National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C., I observed a downy young Mallard, that had strayed away from its group, crossing the pond. Suddenly a Coot, one of a pair that was nesting, left its nest and started for the young duck. The duck dived under the water and the coot dived after it, coming up with the young duck in its bill. When I jumped over the fence, the Coot freed the little duck and went back to its nest. The Mallard then proceeded across the pond, rejoining its family.—J. A. COLLINS, *Captain, National Zoological Park Police, Washington, D. C.*

An unusual nest of the Yellow Warbler.—A nest of the Eastern Yellow Warbler, *Dendroica aestiva aestiva* (Gmelin), composed of five distinct units or 'stories' was collected near Brimfield, Ohio, on December 26, 1942. It was placed six feet above the ground in the top of a high-blueberry bush growing in a swamp. The nest had a total height of nine inches. It was probably constructed during the spring of 1942 judging by the excellent condition of preservation and the young stems in which it was built. The first three 'stories' contained no lining, but were distinct cups set within each other and easily separated. They formed a cone wedged into the branches of the blueberry bush. Presumably these layers were built to form a platform at a level high above the crotch where the branches would not be so closely crowded together and thus would permit easy access to the nest. The fourth unit was completely lined. Within this was a second floor of nesting material, chiefly stems of grasses, which held two eggs of the Eastern Cowbird, *Molothrus ater ater* (Boddaert). On the top of this was constructed the fifth and last unit which also was lined and normal in every respect. The usual Yellow Warbler's nest measures about three inches in height. The one reported here was three times as high because of the additional bottom layers and the necessity of building a new nest over the eggs of the socially parasitic cowbird.—RALPH W. DEXTER, *Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.*

The Southern Pileated Woodpecker an unusual victim of the automobile.—While driving from Chicago to Florida in October, 1942, we noticed, besides numerous dead opossums and skunks killed on the highway by passing cars, also a Pileated Woodpecker. While the Red-headed Woodpecker is an altogether too common victim, this was the only instance of a Pileated fatality that I have seen or heard of. Since the locality was in northern Alabama, it was presumably the Southern Pileated Woodpecker (*Ceophloeus pileatus pileatus*).—C. W. G. EIFRIG, *Windermere, Florida.*

Roosting tree for the Turkey Vulture.—On the same journey mentioned above, we passed, near Brownstown, Indiana, a large dead sycamore, which was used as a roost by Turkey Vultures, and had been used thus for a long time, as we found out upon inquiry. There were thirteen of the bulky birds perching on the tree as we passed, but our informant told us that he had seen as many as thirty at one time. Strangely, we had not seen a Turkey Vulture all the way from Chicago to Brownstown.—C. W. G. EIFRIG, *Windermere, Florida.*

Sparrow Hawk incubating Wood Duck eggs.—On May 27, 1943, the writers frightened a female Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius sparverius*) from a Wood Duck nesting box in a black-oak wood lot one-fourth mile east of Bath, Illinois. We were very much surprised on removing the box lid to find that the Sparrow Hawk had not been incubating its own eggs, but those of a Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*).

The six Wood Duck eggs were much warmer than air temperature, and because this was an incomplete clutch, it was obvious that they had not been incubated by a Wood Duck.

It was not possible for us to inspect this box again until June 16. Then we found that one of the Wood Duck eggs had evidently hatched and one egg was infertile, while there were no traces of the remaining eggs. We believed that one egg had hatched or nearly hatched for we found the skull and vertebrae of one duckling.

We believe that the Sparrow Hawk that displayed this strong brooding instinct was an individual whose eggs had been destroyed in a nesting box about one mile from the above place. We knew of no other nesting Sparrow Hawk female in the entire region.—FRANK C. BELLROSE, JR., AND JESSOP B. LOW, *Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Illinois.*

***Riccordia ricordii* seen at Miami, Florida.**—At Matheson Hammock County Park on October 20, 1943, I had the rare privilege of finding a hummingbird which does not appear on the A.O.U. Check-List for North America. The bird was seen on other occasions by myself and others as listed below. Through the kindness of Dr. Frank M. Chapman, to whom I had the pleasure of showing this bird, careful descriptions from field observations were sent to Dr. John T. Zimmer, Curator of Birds at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. Dr. Zimmer decided that the Cuban Emerald Hummer, *Riccordia ricordii ricordii*, or an allied race, most nearly fitted our descriptions, and very kindly sent Dr. Chapman a skin of that species. The skin was examined by all who had seen the living bird, and all agreed that it was the same species. A. H. Evans, 'Birds' (1909), refers to the genus *Sporadinus* (= *Riccordia*) as inhabiting Florida, the Bahamas, and the Greater Antilles. Cory, 'Birds of the Bahamas,' describes *Sporadinus ricordi* (= *Riccordia r. bracei*). From the estimated depth of fork in the tail of the bird as observed, this writer would place the bird in the Cuban subspecies. However, it appears impossible definitely to identify the subspecies of *Riccordia* in the field. Such identification must wait upon the collection of a specimen. In the meantime a definite sight record of the species *Riccordia ricordii* has been made in the United States. The writer wishes to extend his sincere thanks to Dr. Chapman and Dr. Zimmer for their help in making the identification.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

October 20, 1943	Stimson	perched and in flight in the sun
October 21, 1943	Stimson	five observations in sunlight
October 23, 1943	A. J. Dietrich, R. Woodmansee, and Stimson	perched and in flight in sun and shade
October 24, 1943	Woodmansee	
October 25, 1943	Dr. Frank M. Chapman and Stimson	perched on cloudy day
October 27, 1943	Dietrich	
October 30, 1943	Dietrich, Woodmansee, and Stimson	
November 13, 1943	Dietrich, Woodmansee, and Stimson	perched in shade.

LOUIS ALBERT STIMSON, *Miami, Florida*

Wilson's Phalarope in Virginia.—On September 17, 1942, a Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) was observed on the sand flats of the Fish and Wildlife Service