

freely and was seen many times by different observers until July 19. I observed it for a total of four hours, once timing as many as ten songs in twelve minutes.

The Lark Bunting was found at South Egremont Pond on October 24, 1944. It was in a mixed company of finches at the edge of the swamp there, and I saw it within twenty feet, perched on a bush, feeding on the ground, and three times in flight. The bird was probably an immature male, as the wing patches were large and conspicuously white.

The Tufted Titmouse appeared at a feeder in Pittsfield during the first week of January, 1945, and was then traced to many feeders in the neighborhood; its route included more than a dozen. It appeared healthy and active on January 25, but has not been recorded since the following day. From the accounts of its habits, it seems possible that it may have died of overeating!—DOROTHY E. SNYDER, *The Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.*

The Bald Eagle nesting in captivity.—Records of the Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) nesting in captivity are rare. The files of the National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C., do not record any such event but from time to time a few eggs have been deposited on the ground in the cages. On March 4, 1945, I discovered a Bald Eagle nesting on the 'cliff' in the eagle flight-cage of the zoo. The nest was constructed of sticks and grasses that had been gathered by the birds in the cage. A good part of the material consisted of peanut bags and popcorn boxes that had been torn apart and incorporated into the nest. In this crude eyrie rested two eggs. An eagle hovered over them, wings spread in an attempt to protect them from an intruder. The incubating bird called out in defiance as I stepped near, and refused to leave the nest. Another eagle, probably the mate of the nesting bird, flew over my head and appeared angry at my presence.

The normal period of incubation of the Bald Eagle is from twenty-eight to thirty-six days. We in the zoo are not molesting this incubating eagle, and it is hoped that a family will eventually emerge from the shells.—MALCOLM DAVIS, *National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C., March 5, 1945.*

Great Black-backed Gull in Monongalia County, West Virginia.—On February 16, 1945, I found an adult Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) at Lake Lynn, Monongalia County, West Virginia. The bird was under observation for about thirty minutes as it flew about and alighted on the broken ice which partially covered the lake. Through 7× binoculars I had every opportunity to see the bird at short range, although it was impossible to secure the specimen. The occurrence of this bird in West Virginia must be regarded as accidental, since this is the first published record for the species from the state.—MAURICE BROOKS, *Division of Forestry, West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

American Eider in Delaware.—The occurrence of any species of eider south of Long Island is so uncommon that a record should be made of any such observation. An American Eider (*Somateria mollissima dresseri*) was killed on October 16, 1944, by a hunter on the Hundred Acre Marsh, near the mouth of the Delaware River, New Castle County, Delaware. The specimen, a female, was carefully examined by U. S. Game Management Agent, Alan W. Souder, who has had considerable experience with the eider on the coast of New England. Souder reported (December 21, 1944) that this was definitely an American Eider, not a King Eider.—CLARENCE COTTAM, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago, Illinois.*

The Whistling Swan in Maine.—Because few observations of the Whistling Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) in New England have been recorded during recent years,