

1945, p. 425, has referred to a photograph of mine in *The Auk* for April, 1924, plate 20, that depicts a nest of the Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*) built in the forks of a small spiraea bush at Hatley, P. Q., on June 16, 1922, it may not seem out of place to draw attention to two more nests of this warbler found by me near Montreal on June 17, 1942, that were also built in the forks of two small spiraea bushes about four feet above the ground. During the twenty years intervening between 1922 and 1942, I have found many nests of this warbler but all of them were saddled on the upper side of branches of coniferous trees, principally spruce (as is usual) until I came upon these two nests in the forks of spiraea bushes. The first contained three Cowbird eggs but none of the owner, although what had become of these latter I am unable to say. The nest was very small compared with the other and the three Cowbird eggs (possibly laid by the same bird as they look very much alike) nearly filled it. The second nest contained two Cowbird eggs and three of the owner. One of the Cowbird eggs was accidentally badly broken and could not be replaced when photographs of both nests were taken to show the eggs and general surroundings. Both nests were among low second-growth trees and shrubs in open situations.

There is a reference in Macoun's 'Catalogue of Canadian Birds,' p. 637, 1909, to a nest that had been found by the Rev. C. J. Young on July 1, 1895, built in a spiraea bush among small pines and hemlocks, near Otly Lake, Lanark Co., Ontario. It is not specifically stated that it was placed in the forks of the branches, but it may possibly have been like my four, two at Hatley and the two at Montreal. In conclusion, I might mention that of the large number of nests of this warbler that I have found, only the above two and one at Hatley (on June 30, 1915) have contained eggs of the Cowbird.—H. MOUSLEY, 4073 Tupper St., Montreal, P. Q.

Unusual nesting of two birds in South Carolina.—Through the kindness of a correspondent, the following unusual nesting of the Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus tyrannus*) was made known to me recently. It seems worthy of record for, not only is it completely new in my lifetime of experience with the bird, but it is probably one of the few departures from custom for this species if, indeed, there are any more!

In July, 1945, a nest was found in a gourd, set up for a martin house on the place of Mr. R. A. Thomas of Smoaks, South Carolina. The custom of erecting gourds for the Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) is a very old one in many parts of the south, and Mr. Thomas makes a practice of it. He states that he usually has a pair of Kingbirds about the place and had not been able to find the nest this season. When he mentioned this to his boys, they informed him that the Kingbirds had built in one of the martin gourds. Hardly crediting it, he went out to see, and saw the old birds coming in and feeding the young which were well advanced in growth. They left the nest "about July 25." The dates of the building, egg laying, etc., he does not have. The writer is not now situated where an examination of the literature is possible to be certain that this occurrence is unique.¹

The writer is indebted to Prof. Franklin Sherman of Clemson College, S. C., for information regarding what appears to be a unique nesting record for the Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis sialis*). Coming at a time when an extraordinary nesting of the Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus tyrannus*) had just been made known

¹A similar case, also from South Carolina, was reported to Mr. Bent who published it in his account of the Eastern Kingbird (*U. S. Nat. Mus., Bull. 179: 17, 1942*).—Ed.

from the same state, it seems really astonishing that these two, which seem to completely reverse usual procedure, should have occurred in the same state at the same time!

On July 20, 1945, Prof. C. L. Epting of Clemson College found the nest of a Bluebird "saddled on the horizontal limb of an oak tree" on the Clemson campus. It was new to him and he called Prof. Sherman's attention to it. The latter visited the site that afternoon and the next morning (July 21). He saw the female make two visits to the nest in the afternoon and "feed the clamoring young" and this was repeated the next morning. The nest was between 12 and 15 feet from the ground, about 15 feet out from the trunk of the tree, and the limb overhung a much-frequented street. The limb itself is about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter where the nest is built.

This is the first instance of which the writer has ever heard when a Bluebird did not use a cavity, either natural or otherwise, for its nest. Indeed, some ornithological works state that the species is "dependent upon" such locations. It is an extraordinary occurrence.

Referring once more to the Eastern Kingbird's abnormal nesting in which this species bred in a martin-box near Smoaks, S. C., in July, 1945, we have, in it, a bird with normally exposed nest using an inclosed space, whereas in the Bluebird, we have a species normally nesting in an inclosed space, using a perfectly open situation! No explanation of either of these reversals of custom occurs to the writer.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *The Crescent, Charleston 50, South Carolina.*

A nesting record for the Golden Pileolated Warbler.—The Golden Pileolated Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla chryseola*) is a fairly common summer resident of western Oregon but the nest of this species has been reported only once before (Gabrielson and Jewett, *Birds of Oregon*, 1st ed.: 517, 1940). On July 20, 1945, in company with my son, I discovered a nest of this subspecies on the shores of Hidden Lake on the southwestern slope of Mt. Hood at an elevation of about 4,000 feet. The nest was about eight inches above the ground, deep in a clump of squaw grass (*Xerophyllum tenax*) located on a rocky slope about twenty feet above the water surface of the lake. It contained four eggs and was composed of a brown material resembling the shredded inner bark of red cedar. The female was flushed from the nest and remained in the close vicinity while we examined the nest and observed her with binoculars. A mountain alder thicket at the upper end of this small lake seemed to be a desirable habitat for this subspecies as a number of these birds were observed there within a small area.—NORBERT LEUPOLD, *Portland, Oregon.*

Nesting of Eastern Purple Finch in Randolph County, West Virginia.—The first definite breeding records for the Eastern Purple Finch (*Carpodacus p. purpureus*) in West Virginia were made near Cheat Bridge, Randolph County, on June 12, 1945. On this date three nests, all under construction, were found. Two were in red spruce, *Picea rubra*, and one was in balsam fir, *Abies balsamea*. Two were placed on small branches against the trunks about four feet from the top of 40-foot trees. The third was located on a horizontal limb at a height of 25 feet. All three nests were within 200 yards of Cheat Lodge at an elevation of 3,600 feet. A fourth pair of breeding birds was noted in the same area, but the nest was not found. On July 18, one of the completed nests was obtained for detailed examination. The framework is largely of small twigs of dead spruce with scattered St. John's wort (*Hypericum*). The lining is rather compact and made up largely of dead grass