

Dr. James Tanner, of Johnson City, Tennessee, accompanied me to this spot on July 14 in an unsuccessful attempt to collect one of these flycatchers. One such bird was shot as it perched above an alder jungle, but our search for it underneath its perch proved fruitless. Tanner, however, who has had considerable field experience with this species in New York, heard the song and concurred in my identification. On this date, allowing for possible duplication, it appeared that at least six Alder Flycatchers were present, suggesting the presence of immatures out of the nest.

The last field trip made to these alder thickets was on August 8. Positive identification was then impossible, as the flycatchers were silent, but two small flycatchers which apparently belonged to the genus *Empidonax* were still present. No flycatchers have been found in other alder thickets in this region, and Dr. J. J. Murray, of Lexington, Virginia, writes (under date of July 31) that there are "no summer records of the Alder Flycatcher in Virginia." The present occurrence, then, is the first for Virginia and apparently the most southern breeding locality east of the Mississippi River.—HENRY M. STEVENSON, *Department of Zoology, Florida State College for Women, Tallahassee, Florida.*

Nesting of Herring Gull in New Jersey.—On July 14, 1946, when, with J. H. Buckalew, I was banding young Laughing Gulls at Stone Harbor, Cape May County, New Jersey, a Herring Gull in full white plumage was flushed from a nest containing two eggs. Photographs were taken of the nest and eggs. This is probably the first New Jersey record. This is the locality where I found a nest of Gull-billed Tern with two eggs on June 20, 1926.—T. E. McMULLEN, *Runnemedede, N. J.*

Evening Grosbeaks and Purple Finches at Baltimore.—Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) appeared in the Baltimore region in considerable numbers in the winter of 1945–1946. A flock of about 50 was first seen in central Baltimore on the isolated date of November 15 (Emlen and Davis, *Maryland Birdlife*, 1: 24, 1945); then on January 1 the birds began appearing in outlying sections of the city and in the surrounding suburbs, and were present in flocks of two to 35 through May 13. At some places the appearances were brief, at others intermittent, and at a few they were continuous for the entire four-month period indicated.

The grosbeaks appeared in the Hamilton, Cedarcroft, Homeland, Roland Park, Dickeyville and Ten Hills sections of Baltimore City, and at Towson, Stevenson, Catonsville and Lansdowne in Baltimore County. Judging by reports from casual observers, the birds were most numerous and widely scattered from the second half of January through March; although it may be that interest in them merely abated after that time, an apparent decline in numbers that began in April at some of the points of prolonged stay suggests that that peak was real. During the second half of February, at least, the birds were present simultaneously at practically all of the places named, including the most widely separated.

The longest observed stay was at Stevenson, January 1 through May 11; the next longest at Dickeyville, about January 18 through May 13. Elsewhere, there were departures, following appreciable stays, as early as mid-February, and first appearances as late as mid-April. When final departures began in May, males disappeared from some places as much as a week before the last females; at other places the flocks were of mixed sex through final dates as late as May 11.

At most of the places where they appeared—including the two where their stays were longest—the grosbeaks regularly patronized feeding shelves and fed gluttonously on sunflower seed. At half a dozen places, however, they appeared to rely entirely on wild food; buds, and seeds of the catalpa, box elder and an exotic elm were wild foods personally observed or reliably reported.

Unusual numbers of Purple Finches (*Carpodacus purpureus*) were another feature of the 1945-1946 winter in the Baltimore region. These birds were particularly prominent from early February through April, and in some cases seemed to be closely associated with the grosbeaks; at Stevenson both species disappeared simultaneously, during the night of May 11-12.

The 1945-1946 occurrence of Evening Grosbeaks is the third, and much the most extensive, that has been reported for Maryland. The first came in 1922, when small numbers were seen from April 3 to May 12 in the Laurel and Washington, D. C., regions (Cooke, Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 42: 45, 1929); the second came in 1942, when two birds were taken at Towson (Kolb and Bond, Auk, 60: 451, 1943). There has already been a western-Maryland report for the winter of 1945-1946, a flock near Hagerstown on December 15 (Middlekauff, Auk, 63: 444, 1946).—HERVEY BRACKBILL, 4608 Springdale Avenue, Baltimore 7, Maryland.

Summer record of the Marsh Hawk in middle Tennessee.—The discovery of a dead male Marsh Hawk (*Circus cyaneus hudsonius*) about 25 miles south of Nashville near Smyrna, Tennessee, on June 25, 1946, is believed to be the first summer record of this species in middle Tennessee. The harrier had been shot a "few" days before by an unknown person, according to the owner of the property on which it was found. The hawk was well into its molt and was at least a second-year bird. A pair of Marsh Hawks was observed March 24, 1946, within one-fourth of a mile of the locality where the bird was found. None had been recorded after this date although this particular region was visited almost weekly. On July 7, the body of the hawk was re-examined and two primaries which were not too damaged by decomposition were removed for a permanent record. The feathers are now in the collection of Mr. Albert F. Ganier, Nashville, Tenn., Curator of the Tennessee Ornithological Society.—JAMES N. LAYNE, Chicago, Illinois.

Anthony's Green Heron nesting in western Oregon.—On July 18, 1946, a nest of the Anthony's Green Heron (*Butorides virescens anthonyi*) was found at the edge of a small lake in Linn Co., just three or four miles east of Corvallis, Oregon, in the heart of the Willamette Valley. The nest contained two downy young, of unequal size, and three eggs. Kodacolor stills and movies were taken of the adults, young, and nest on July 23 by Dr. K. L. Gordon, Head of the Dept. of Zoology at Oregon State College. On that date, none of the three eggs had hatched; as was proved later, they were failures.

The nest was situated about 12 feet over the water of the lake, in an ash tree (*Fraxinus oregona*). The nest itself had a dense shade canopy over it, even though the tree was in direct sunlight every afternoon.

Previous to this, on July 1, 1946, I found adult Green Herons carrying food to a nest (which I could not locate) on a small pond just two miles north of Corvallis, in Benton Co. However, on July 17 I did find this nest which was situated 15 feet over water in a willow (*Salix lasiandra*). This nest also was on the eastern side of the lake, but well shaded and not as exposed as the nest mentioned above. On July 23, I saw one half-grown young perched on a snag on this lake, evidently from the empty nest I found on July 1.

On July 27, 1946, the two young from the nest found July 18 were well feathered, and they left the nest by July 31. The nest was found torn up and with the three eggs floating in the water below where it had been, on August 2. The pond lilies and willows below the nest were thoroughly "white-washed" by the two growing young.

When I visited the lake on August 16, I watched both the young, now well de-