

into the brush surrounding the lake. This appeared to be the work of coyotes, which were frequently seen during the investigation. On 23 November a survey was made in the Game Department aircraft. Many dead cranes were observed on the prairies up to a mile away from the lake. Additional dead cranes, not previously counted, were observed on the shoreline of Lewiston Lake. From this flight and from previous counts we estimated that the actual loss exceeded 1,000 cranes.—GEORGE W. MERRILL, *New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Santa Fe, New Mexico.*

Observation of Avian Pox in a Yellow-shafted Flicker.—Avian pox, a viral infection manifested in both cutaneous and diphtheritic forms, is a common disease among domestic and wild birds (Cunningham, C. H., 1952. *In* H. E., Biester and L. H. Schwarte, Ed., *Diseases of Poultry*, Chap. 25. Iowa State Coll. Press, Ames. 1,245 pp.). The writers collected a live, female Yellow-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) near Donovan, Illinois, on 29 April 1960, which showed cutaneous, wartlike lesions on the right eyelid (Figure 1). This infection was histopathologically diagnosed as avian pox by the diagnostic laboratory, College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Illinois. The bird was capable of manipulating its eyelid despite the large lesions, and seemed to exhibit normal vision. Lesions, other than those on the eyelid, were not found on this bird. No attempt was made to isolate the strain of virus causing this pox infection. To the best of our knowledge, the infection of Yellow-shafted Flickers by avian pox has not been previously reported *in litt.*—RONALD F. LABISKY and STUART H. MANN, *Illinois Natural History Survey, Urbana, Illinois.*

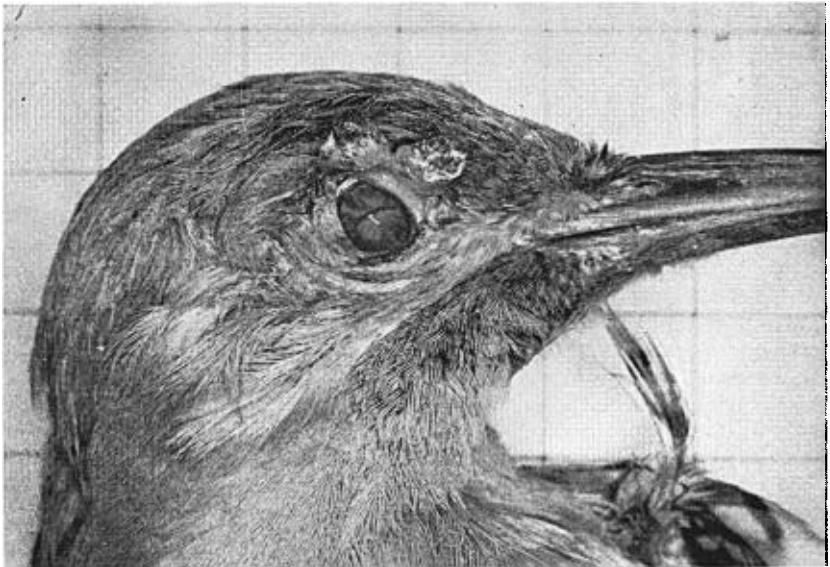


Figure 1. Avian pox, manifested in cutaneous, wartlike lesions, on the eyelid of a female Yellow-shafted Flicker. Photograph by William E. Clark, Illinois Natural History Survey Photographer.