

stimuli could be generally adaptive (though evidently not always) in the cowbird because of the variety of species which serve as foster parents. Second, the crow's attack was evidently inhibited initially by the approaches of the begging fledgling, even though (since a crow had not been observed on this lawn previously during my stay) it was possibly attracted initially by the cowbird. Begging by young birds, therefore, perhaps reduces aggressive responses of adult birds, and this example suggests that it may so function interspecifically, even with a potential predator.—MILLICENT S. FICKEN, *Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.*

Rock Wren in Ontario.—On 6 December 1964 a Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus*) was found by Carl Mrozek, Daniel Salisbury, and us on a jetty at the Lake Ontario entrance to the Welland Canal in Saint Catharines, Ontario, Canada. The bird was first seen on top of a rock in a snow- and ice-covered embankment bordering the west side of the Canal. It remained on the rocks, but covered a horizontal distance of 300 yards along the canal. The bird would perch on the top of a rock, give a variable, high-pitched rattle, and then fly into rock crevices a few feet away. While in view it would bob and, although it blended in well with the rocks, this made it easy to see; it seemed to prefer the larger, higher rocks for perching. Often a close approach did not cause the bird to flush.

The Rock Wren was collected the next morning by Dr. Robert Andrlé of the Buffalo Museum of Science. It was identified as *S. o. obsoletus* by Dr. Lester Short, then of the U. S. National Museum, and is now in the Royal Ontario Museum at Toronto. According to the A.O.U. Check-list, fifth edition, the species has been previously recorded east of Minnesota twice, once in Michigan (see J. Van Tyne, *Wilson Bull.*, 54: 52, 1942) and once (see A. S. Hyde, *Auk*, 44: 111-112, 1927) in Illinois. There is also a record for Tennessee (See R. D. Smith, Jr., *Migrant*, 27: 76, 1956; and *Aud. Field Notes*, 11: 272, 1957). This is the first record of the species for Ontario.—JOANNA BURGER, *State University College, Buffalo, New York*, and RICHARD BROWNSTEIN, *Buffalo, New York.*

Comparison of nesting sites of Bald Eagles in central Florida from 1930 to 1965.—In recent years the Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) has decreased in numbers within the contiguous United States, to the point where it is now considered a threatened species within these borders (see A. Sprunt, IV, *Aud. Mag.*, 63: 324-327, 1961; 65: 32-35, 1963; and 66: 45-46, 1964). In addition, in some areas where the eagle is still found, productivity has greatly diminished. Therefore, any area in which the Bald Eagle still breeds at a natural rate and maintains a stable population at a high level becomes of major importance. The Kissimmee Prairie region of central Florida appears to be such an area. (In the 1964-65 nesting season the area contained about 80 active nests, with approximately 90 per cent of the apparently ecologically favorable sites being occupied [G. M. Heinzman and D. Heinzman, *Florida Nat.*, 38: 126-127, 1965].) This is a sparsely populated region of large cattle ranches, where landowners have joined with the Florida Audubon Society in a program to protect the eagles and their nesting sites.

The general decline in the eagle population over a long-term study period has been documented in one area by Howell, who has checked periodically on 24 nest sites in east-central Florida since 1935 (*Auk*, 71: 306-309, 1954; 75: 96-98, 1958; 79:

716-718, 1962). That study indicates a 75 per cent loss in occupied sites since the 1930's, a decrease which seems to be representative of the general trend for populations of this eagle.

In the early 1930's Howell also visited and recorded the location of 13 active nest sites in a region of the Kissimmee Prairie where Heinzman has been working since 1960. The purpose of this note is to point out that the recent activity at these 13 sites indicates that the population here is stable, a highly unusual, if not unique, condition for this threatened species. We have also included some information from two other workers which partially fills the gap in history at one site, and establishes activity at an additional site (Table 1). These 14 sites represent 17.5 per cent of the presently known sites in the area.

Because of the Bald Eagle's ranging habits and the ecological features of the region, we considered that if an occupied nest was located within one mile of one occupied in the 1930's it represented the same nest site. This assumption seems to be justified because we have several records of one pair of eagles using nests as much as two miles apart, both consecutively and alternately.

TABLE 1
BALD EAGLE NEST SITES AND YEARS IN WHICH THEY WERE KNOWN TO BE ACTIVE¹

<i>Nest number</i>	<i>Howell's data</i>	<i>Heinzman's data</i>	<i>Notes</i>
1	1933	1961-65	
2	1931-33	1964-65	
3	1930-35	1962-65	
4	1930-32	1962-65	Active 1948-55 ²
5	1932	1964-65	
6	1932	1962-65	
7	1932	1962-63	Occupied by Great Horned Owls, 1964-65
8	1933	1962-65	
9	1933	1962-65	
10	1933	1962-65	
11	1936	1962-65	
12	1936	1962-63	Deserted, 1964-65
13	1938	1962-65	
14	—	1964-65	Same tree occupied in 1932 ³

¹ The nesting season in this area extends approximately from November to April. The year noted is for the end of the season, e.g., 1963 refers to the 1962-63 season.

² From D. J. Nicholson (*Florida Nat.*, 25: 23-26, 1952, and pers. comm.).

³ From R. Chandler (pers. comm.).

As can be seen from Table 1, all 14 sites were still occupied in the 1962-63 season. In the 1964-65 season, 12 were occupied; 1, upon which civilization had encroached, was deserted, and 1 was occupied by Great Horned Owls (*Bubo virginianus*). Of the 14 nests involved, one measured at least 12 feet in height in 1962, and may have been occupied continuously since 1933. Some sites have undoubtedly been occupied by a succession of birds, probably with the surviving member of a pair finding a new mate and nesting in the same area. Also, many of the sites have probably been unoccupied for various lengths of time, later to be occupied by birds moving into these ecologically favorable sites.—JOSEPH C. HOWELL, *Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee*, and GEORGE M. HEINZMAN, *Bald Eagle Project, Florida Audubon Society, Maitland, Florida*.