

These observations do not address the question of why calling should be used in response to the intrusion of strangers, but not neighbors. It may be that features of the call occurring in the context of a boundary evoke more aggression than would otherwise be directed towards familiar neighbors. If the call contains no elements signalling individual identity, its use in interactions between neighbors might be incompatible with the decreased levels of aggression appropriate for neighbors. Such considerations cannot be addressed directly here. These observations do, however, support the hypothesis that the function of chatbursts in the mockingbird's fall territoriality is primarily restricted to defense against intruding conspecifics rather than defense against neighboring residents.—CHERYL A. LOGAN, *Department of Psychology, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Greensboro, North Carolina 27412*. Received 14 Jan. 1984; accepted 6 Dec. 1984.

**Initiation of nest-roosting by passerines with open nests.**—Reporting on an Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*) that began roosting on her nest 3 days before laying her first egg, Mueller et al. (J. Field Ornithol. 53:421–422, 1982) state that “we have been unable to find any account of a passerine spending the night on an open, cup-shaped nest before incubation begins. It is likely that few observers have looked for the possibility.”

In Baltimore, between 1943 and 1976, I watched for the start of roosting at 31 open nests of 6 passerine species, checking by flashlight beginning one or more nights before the first egg appeared. I never found a bird roosting on the nest until there was at least 1 egg. There was variation in the time of start; neither clutch size nor time of year seemed to be a factor in this. My data are:

American Robin, *Turdus migratorius*, 17 nests. At 6 April and May nests, clutches 2 to 4, roosting began with the first egg; at 3 in May, roosting began only when clutches of 4 were complete; at a 5-egg May nest roosting began with the second egg; at the other 7 nests, clutches 3 and 4, roosting began on intermediate laying days.

Wood Thrush, *Hylocichla mustelina*, 5 nests. At 3 May nests, roosting began with the first egg; at another May nest with the second egg, all clutches 4; roosting began with the second egg of a June clutch of 3.

Cardinal, *Cardinalis cardinalis*, 4 nests, all clutches 3. At 2 April and 1 May nests, roosting began only with the final egg; at 1 in May with the second egg.

Song Sparrow, *Melospiza melodia*, 2 nests. Roosting began with the second egg in April, final egg in June, clutches 4; same marked bird.

Gray Catbird, *Dumetella carolinensis*, 2 nests. Roosting began with the third of 4 eggs in May; last of 3 eggs in July.

Mockingbird, *Mimus polyglottos*, 1 nest. Roosting began with second of 3 eggs in May.—HERVEY BRACKBILL, 2620 Poplar Drive, Baltimore, Maryland 21208. Received 1 June 1983; accepted 16 Jan. 1984.