

the center and tiers of bleacher-like seats surrounding on all sides. It is used for the various stock-judging courses and there are large classes held there most of the day. English sparrows can be found at all times in the Pavilion. Several places in the arena were scattered with feathers, testifying to the good work of the hawk.

One of the caretakers at the Pavilion stated that the hawk had been staying there for about three weeks.

WALTER A. GOELITZ.

Ravinia, Ill.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER AT ATLANTIC, IOWA.

A few days ago a male Red-bellied Woodpecker, *Centurus carolinus*, was observed for the first time in this locality. While it may be possible, of course, that an occasional individual of the species visits western Iowa, careful observation of both summer and winter birds has never revealed one before, and the occurrence may be of interest to other readers. Since first observed, he has appeared every day at our suet bags, affording us ample opportunity to confirm identification, as well as the pleasure of studying his beautiful plumage.

T. H. WHITNEY.

Atlantic, Iowa, April 20th, 1917.

PILEATED WOODPECKER.

A number of articles have appeared within the last year or so regarding this rare bird, all of which relate to counties near us, Ash-tabula in particular, but I never have seen a note giving report of an instance of its having been seen in Geauga. I have therefore thought it proper to speak a word for our little county.

My own satisfactory views of the birds have been only two, but both of these unmistakable. Both occurred within the limits of Chardon Village, and at the same edge of the same piece of woodland. The first, on March 15th, 1905, was of a mature male, while the second I took to be a young bird, form, size and action being true to the species, but the areas that would be black in the mature bird, though quite dark, were not black. Two others were with me for this observation. It was made May 5th, 1907.

Nearly every year some member of our Bird Club reports seeing one at some point near, and we are coming to consider them not very uncommon.

F. E. Ford and Arthur Fowler, of this place, followed one to a swampy piece of timber about two and a half miles from town, in the township of Claridon, last year, where they saw indications that a pair were getting ready for housekeeping.

Mr. B. P. Grunauer, of Cleveland, who has recently purchased a farm in the west part of Chester, this county, informs me that he and a friend one day last spring found one, having traced him by his drumming, in a large piece of timber at the back of the farm.

A student from Hiram College informs me that a pair have nested in a large dead tree near that place for several years. Hiram township is in Portage county, and joins this county on the south.

The accompanying article, relating to the same bird in another quarter of the county and covering, as it does, a longer period, is evidence, not only that they are likely to be found in all parts of the county, but suggests that this occupation of our territory has continued for very many years. Several other instances of their having been seen in this vicinity might be given in detail, but these are sufficient to establish the fact that Geauga county is and has been, perhaps for ages, the home of this remarkable bird.

ORANGE COOK.

February 22, 1917.

In the southwest part of Geauga county there is a large unbroken tract of timber of over one hundred acres in extent. This forest was a part of four different farms, one of which was my father's, and later became my own. It was on this farm that I spent sixty years of my life, and I was pretty familiar with the wild life that found a home in the recesses of this forest. And I may add that much wild life yet exists there that has entirely disappeared from most other sections.

From my earliest recollections the Pileated Woodpecker has made these woods his home, and he is yet to be found there every year. We first called him the Woodcock. Later we were taught that his proper name was Logcock, and as we began the study of natural history we learned to call him the Pileated Woodpecker.

How we (my brother and myself) liked to follow the big fellow about, and watch him at work, hammering vigorously and noisily upon the limb or trunk of some decaying tree. The amount of excavating that they could do in a short time was truly astonishing. The powerful strokes of that chisel-like bill could be heard a long distance. Many of the pieces of wood they would throw out of the place they were excavating would measure two or more inches in length.

Although the Pileated Woodpecker is a rare bird, and somewhat shy, I have never found it difficult to approach him while he was busy at work. He always seemed to be so completely absorbed in the business before him, that he gave but little heed to what was going on around him.

I think the Pileated Woodpecker is the most solitary of all our native birds. Although I have seen him frequently, all my life, I never saw two at the same time, though my brother once did,—but that was undoubtedly at mating time.

He certainly is a captain at hiding his nest, for though we were certain he nested somewhere in that large tract of woods, we were never able to find his nest. I have more than once found holes in trees that looked as though they might be his nesting place, but always in a place so inaccessible that I was never able to verify my suspicions.

The Pileated Woodpecker is said to be a vanishing bird, and nearing final extinction. This belief I regard as only partly true. While they are much less numerous in some sections of the country than they formerly were, they are to be found as numerous in many places that are to their liking, as they were in pioneer days. The greatest enemy to this magnificent bird is the modern hunter with the modern gun. We have laws and laws for the protection of the wild things about us that are so vitally necessary to our own existence; but against the ruthless and irresponsible hunter with a modern weapon in his hands there is little protection, little hope for those things he desires to kill.

A. R. PHILLIPS.

Publications Reviewed

The editor feels constrained to express his regret that he has not been able to present reviews of literature which has been accumulating upon his desk for a full half year without notice in these pages. He will not make the annual pilgrimage to the Pacific Coast this summer, because of service which the war has called for, and therefore time for many things will be available during the summer.

“A YEAR WITH THE BIRD.” By Alice E. Ball. Illustrated by Robert Bruce Horsfall. From the press of Gibbs & Van Vleck, Inc., New York. Published by the author, 1961 Ford Drive, Cleveland, Ohio.

Each of the 56 species treated in this book has a full-page plate in colors by Horsfall accompanying the description, which is in verse. The underlying thought of the author is that young children will be more certainly attracted by rhyme than prose, and will be likely to retain their early impressions thus gained. The mechanical work is exceptionally good, and the type large and clear. Of especial value are the backgrounds in the illustrations,