

In *Bird-Lore* for Nov.-Dec. 1915 (page 479) Mr. Forbush tells (quoted by Pearson) of wounded Surf Scoters diving and holding to water plants until they drown in order to escape hunters, but other than this and the instance cited above, as far as my recollection goes, I know of no cases where birds have actually taken their own lives. Perhaps some of our readers can furnish additional information on this subject.

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#### WOODCOCK AND OTHER NOTES FROM ARKANSAS

In March, 1920, the writer saw an American Woodcock in a thickly wooded pasture near Fayetteville, Arkansas. This species formerly nested in this region but has not been observed for many years in any of its former summer haunts. While recently in Dardanelle, and the guest of my keen-eyed and accurate sportsman friend, Mr. G. E. Pilquist, I got the following facts about the nesting of a pair of Woodcock this season in that vicinity.

Dardanelle is on the right branch of the Arkansas River near the famous Dardanelle Rock, around which cluster many Indian legends. Nearby is Mount Nebo, a beautiful isolated peak of the Ozarkian uplift, rivalling Mount Magazine in beauty but not quite attaining its elevation of more than 2800 feet. The swamps and woodlands in this region are particularly inviting to the birds and the streams abound in fish. Considerable game still exists and pearl-ers and trappers find it still more or less profitable to explore the rivers for their treasures.

About the sixteenth of March a report was brought to Mr. Pilquist of the nesting of a pair of Woodcock about six miles southwest of Dardanelle and some three and one-half miles south of Mt. Nebo. The locality was fully five miles from the Arkansas River. He immediately made an effort to visit the nest. Competent eyewitnesses identified the species, and on the thirtieth of March Mr. Pilquist himself visited the nest, which was placed in a stubble of burned sedge grass, the clump being surrounded with water at the time the bird was seen. The nest was typical in every respect and not more than one hundred yards from a small creek. On the 31st of March the four eggs hatched.

It may be well for the writer to submit here without comment, a list of birds already observed as nesting in this region, specifying those of which eggs have been actually collected with a star. It is possible, of course, to greatly extend this list, and we fully hope to do this as opportunity will permit:

Wood Duck, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, King Rail?, American Woodcock, \*Bob-white, Wild Turkey (nest in adjoining county visited in 1920), \*Mourning Dove, \*Turkey Vulture (1921), \*Cooper's Hawk, \*Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American

Sparrow Hawk, American Barn Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl?, \*Screech Owl, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Belted Kingfisher, Hairy Woodpecker, \*Southern Downy Woodpecker, \*Pileated Woodpecker (six nests have been located this season; two sets of eggs have been taken, one clutch of four and one of five), \*Red-bellied Woodpecker, \*Red-headed Woodpecker, \*Northern Flicker, Chuck-will's-widow, \*Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Kingbird, Crested Flycatcher, Phoebe, Wood Pewee, \*Blue Jay, \*American Crow, \*Cowbird, Red-winged Blackbird, \*Bronzed Grackle, \*Southern Meadowlark, Baltimore Oriole, \*Orchard Oriole, Grasshopper Sparrow, \*Field Sparrow, \*Lark Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, \*Cardinal, Blue Grossbeak, \*Indigo Bunting, \*Summer Tanager, \*Purple Martin, Rough-winged Swallow, Migrant Shrike, White-eyed Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler, Maryland Yellow-throat, \*Yellow-breasted Chat, Oven-bird?, \*Mockingbird, \*Catbird, \*Brown Thrasher, \*Bewick Wren, \*Tufted Titmouse, \*Chickadee, \*Wood Thrush, \*Southern Robin, \*Bluebird.

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#### THE PRAIRIE WARBLER

In ten or twelve years of bird study it had never been my privilege to see a Prairie Warbler. On August 13, 1917, while spending the day at Sulphur Lick Springs, Ross County, Ohio, a friend and I were looking for birds as usual, when we suddenly came upon what we recognized at first glance to be a male Prairie Warbler. He was not shy and we succeeded in getting near enough to see that he did not have the salmon patch on the back, but upon looking it up found that Prairies do not always show that color in the early fall. As "Birds of Ohio" by Dawson says "not known to breed in Ohio" and also an early fall migrant, we were not sure but it might be a migrant at this date.

On June 11, 1919, two other men and I were walking over the hills of Ross county, Ohio, near Bainbridge, probably then ten miles from Sulphur Lick Springs where we had previously seen the Prairie Warbler, when I heard a new song which I knew at once to be the song of a Warbler, but a new one to me. It sounded but a short distance away and I excused myself and started in the direction of the song. To my delight it flew toward me and alighted in a bush not more than twenty feet away. Behold! a male Prairie Warbler in all his beauty, threw back his head and sang! A song reminding me very much of the Blue-wing a little more musical and having more volume. In walking probably a mile on that hillside, I heard the song of as many as ten or twelve.

There being so many in one place and at that date, I knew