

hilly and partly rolling. The nest was built at the foot of a small buck-bush and was composed of fine bark and leaves with a lining of tendrils. The exterior was enveloped with leaves of the red oak, the stem ends of which projected upward and curled over the top in such a way that the sitting bird was well hidden.

The year following I made a special search for these birds and succeeded in locating three more nests within a short distance of the first. Of these, the first was found on June 4th and held three incubated eggs. The bird sitting on this nest would allow one to touch her before taking flight. On June 6th another was found which contained two eggs and which was later robbed by a snake. The last nest was located on June 12th at which time it held four fresh eggs. The last three nests mentioned were quite similar in location and construction to the first one described. During subsequent years I have not had opportunity to make careful search for additional nests but have heard the birds in the vicinity each summer.

In a paper on "Breeding Warblers of Tennessee" in the September 1916 Wilson Bulletin, Mr. A. F. Ganier writes of the Blue-winged Warbler as follows: "On June 24th, 1916, an immature bird was taken from a group of three, on a hillside, on July 1st another immature was collected and again it was noted on July 14th. These records may mean that this species will prove to be fairly common." The four nesting records above recorded apparently bear out his supposition.

In the paper referred to, sixteen species of warblers are recorded as breeding near Nashville and among them are the Worm-eating Warbler (*Helminthos vermivorus*), which he had found feeding young in June. On May 7th, 1922, the writer, in company with Dr. George R. Mayfield, established a definite nesting record for this species by locating a nest containing five fresh eggs, on "the ridge" about twelve miles north of Nashville. The nest was located in a densely wooded ravine and was composed entirely of dead leaves except for the lining which was of fine red tendrils.

EDGAR M. MCNISH.

Nashville, Tenn., Dec. 10, 1922.

SOME FURTHER IOWA OWL NOTES

I wish to record the occurrence of the Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus virginianus*) in the vicinity of Winthrop, Buchanan County, Iowa.

On November 5, 1922, a cold and disagreeable fall day, I was tramping along Buffalo Creek, hoping to perhaps find something of interest in way of bird-life.

While passing through a grove I was surprised by an enormous brown form which slid from its position in a tall tree and quickly made away to the north. My fleeting glimpse of the bird bespoke an Owl, but of the species I could not be certain. It was easy to make out the Owl's whereabouts, for when it flew a flock of a dozen Crows and a Blue Jay sighted it, and in a frenzied mob they gathered about the low ash tree in which it had alighted and turned the otherwise peaceful air into a bedlam of hoarse yells and screams.

After a brisk walk I was among the rioters. The Owl flew to another low tree a short way off, but the excited band of tormentors followed persistently. I soon got near enough to the bird to see that it was a Great Horned Owl. My dog, who had been my companion on the walk, now came running up and I concluded that there was where my study of the Owl would end; but instead, contrary to my expectations, she ran up to the tree (unwittingly, of course), where the bird perched, and nosing around in the grass beneath, held the Owl's attention so very closely that I was able to get behind a tree only a short distance from the bird. The sun was shining, and from my vantage point I could study the bird to my heart's content; if I had been a collector I could have shot the bird with no trouble at all. After a time the Owl flew away and the flock of Crows which had flown away when they perceived my approach, took up the chase and were soon out of sight in the distance. This was my first record of the Great Horned Owl in this locality.

The occurrence of the Great Horned Owl in this vicinity is rare because there is a total lack of the dense woods which afford the seclusion this species loves. Buffalo Creek is bordered by a very narrow belt of trees and there are no heavy woods nearer than those along the banks of the Wapsipinicon River, several miles to the west, and those in the section near the village of Monti, about five miles south of my home here near Winthrop.

While I was so cautiously stalking the Owl I had another surprise. I was much startled by a sharp twitter in front of me, and glancing in the direction of the sound I saw a Woodcock (*Philohela minor*) making rapidly away; I was able to see all of its markings plainly. This was another new record for me. This species does not seem to be very common in Iowa.

Miss Wilda M. Griswold of Winthrop, has given me some notes on the very interesting performance of a Screech Owl (*Otus asio asio*), which she observed during the winter of 1921-22. The cage of the Griswold family canary hung in one of the windows of their home and in the winter evenings a Screech Owl would come and repeatedly fly against the window, either attracted by the light within or in an attempt to catch the bird it saw between itself and the light. The latter supposition is the more probable, I believe. The Screech Owl's peculiar practice was continued with so much persistence, Miss Griswold says, that it was necessary to pull the curtain down, because the canary was badly frightened. The Owl persevered in its unsuccessful quest on a great many nights during the winter; the pulling down of the shade seemed to be the only remedy at hand.

When motoring on the country roads at night, especially in the fall months, I often see the Screech Owl, his plump little body being plainly outlined by the beams of the headlights as he perches on some roadside telephone wire. He is the only Owl that we, in eastern Iowa, may call rather common.

FRED J. PIERCE.

Winthrop, Iowa, Dec. 7, 1922.