

March 28, nest empty; March 29, adult Cottontail Rabbit remains; March 30, nest empty; March 31, adult Cottontail Rabbit; April 1, same; April 2, same; April 3, adult Cottontail Rabbit and Robin; April 4, nest empty; April 5, Robin and Flicker; April 6, Robin; April 7, adult Cottontail Rabbit; April 8, nest empty; April 9, adult Skunk; April 10, nest empty; and April 11, Robin.

It is evident that Cottontail Rabbits form a large portion of the food of the young birds prior to the warm days of early April. With the return of spring, however, birds at once become a prominent item in the bill-of-fare. The Skunk found on April 9 is of interest since it shows that the young birds, as well as the adults, eat this mammal occasionally.

From the standpoint of the farmer and orchardist, the rabbit-killing propensities of this predator are laudable; the sportsman, however, will regard the owl as an undesirable killer of birds and game.—GEORGE MIKSCHE STUTTON, *Game Commission, Harrisburg, Pa.*

The Cliff Swallow in Clayton County, Iowa.—Some decades ago the Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon lunifrons lunifrons*) was a common breeder here, and old-timers tell of the barns being lined with nests. In late years nesting records have been few and far between. On June 15, 1927, Miss Althea R. Sherman and the writer visited the largest breeding colony found here in years. The nests were built on the corn-crib on the farm of Mr. Albert O. Berns, near National, Iowa. Twenty-five were on the east side of the building and two on the opposite side. Three were double, but lack of room cannot be considered as a cause. Seven nests were not completed, ranging from a few smears of mud to nests that were half finished. Building was reported to have commenced on May 19. Several nests were being used by English Sparrows, and some of the Cliff Swallows were reported to have left the vicinity.—OSCAR P. ALLERT, *McGregor, Iowa.*

A Possible Relationship Between Bell's Vireo and the Cowbird.—While on a bird study trip with a class on June 23, 1927, we were attracted by the notes of Bell's Vireo (*Vireo belli belli*), sung in the trees and bushes along a small ravine at the northwest edge of Stillwater. Upon following these birds (a pair) we found ten nests, all constructed in the same manner and of much the same material. All were located within one hundred yards of the first one found. One nest had a Cowbird egg only; one had a vireo egg and a Cowbird egg; one had a vireo egg; another had two dead vireos (young) and one vireo egg that had not hatched; the others were empty.

From all appearances the nests were all built that season. One nest was so high in a slender bush that we could not see into it.

The incident suggests to me the possibility that Bell's Vireo leaves its nest when bothered by the Cowbird, moves over to a new site and builds a new nest. There were only the two vireos in the ravine.—GEORGE A. MOORE, *Stillwater, Okla.*

Regarding a Late Florida Record of the Flamingo.—In the *Auk*, XLV, p. 201, April, 1928, Mr. H. L. Stoddard records seeing a Flamingo on September 24, 1927, on the Gulf Coast of Florida. Late records of this bird in Florida are worthy of note, but, without detracting from Mr. Stoddard's efforts, I think it is only right to advance the theory that this bird is evidently the one that escaped from the preserve of Mr. Edward Bok, at Mountain Lake Park, Lake Wales, Florida, in late February or early March of 1927.

Soon after it got away, Mrs. Bok wrote me, asking if I had heard anything from it, and if possible to have it returned to their sanctuary. Of the other caged birds that escaped in this section during the hurricane of 1926, two were later seen, and one was captured over six months later.

It would be natural for the Bok bird to work south with the other water birds during the early fall; and, having been in confinement for some time previously, it naturally would not migrate southward to Cuba or the Bahamas in one flight. The light color of the plumage, as noted by Mr. Stoddard, and the nearness of approach allowed by the bird, also indicates it to be the Bok or some other escaped caged bird.—HAROLD H. BAILEY, *Miami, Fla.*

The European Starling Nesting at Nashville, Tennessee—In the WILSON BULLETIN for September, 1925, I recorded the European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) as breeding at Bristol and at Knoxville, Tennessee, during May, 1925. About the first of June, 1927, Messrs. G. R. Mayfield and Vernon Sharp observed a pair in a pasture at Woodbury, forty miles southeast of Nashville, this date being reasonable evidence of their breeding. On March 24, 1928, in passing the same place, I observed two pairs going in and out of old Flicker holes in a dead tree, and presumed that they were making ready to nest.

On April 27, 1928, at Nashville, I observed several Starlings feeding in a pasture with Grackles, Meadowlarks and Robins. Realizing that this date meant nearby nests, I returned the next day to "sit it out" with them, so as to locate their breeding place. I did not have long to wait, for soon one of them made off in a low straight flight and dived into an old Flicker's hole in a telephone pole some forty feet from the ground. Within a half hour I located the nests of the other two pairs, also in old woodpecker holes in telephone poles, nine and twenty feet up, respectively.

Ascending the poles I enlarged the openings with a chisel and in the first nest found six young about ten days old, in the second were five young a week old and in the third were five young about five days old. Later in the day, I met Prof. J. M. Shaver who told me that he had just observed Starlings carrying food to young in three nests at another locality, some distance from where I had found mine.

Migrating Starlings were particularly abundant here this year, from January to the latter part of March; so abundant in fact that I felt sure that a number would remain to breed.—ALBERT F. GANIER, *Nashville, Tenn.*

Banding Robins in Florida.—The Banding of Robins was carried on around my place at Pass-a-Grille, Florida, during the week ending March 5, 1928, when a total of sixty-five Robins had been banded. I have measured some of the wings, and most of them appear to be northern birds. Today one female measured had a wing 120 mm. long, which I believe, together with the paleness of the bird, indicates a Southern Robin. Never before in my Florida experience of six seasons have there been so many Robins as this past winter. In April I made some cross sections of the Robin flocks, which covered a territory two and a half miles long on this island, and placed the number at 11,000 and with them about 4,000 Myrtle Warblers. The movement northward was apparent for some weeks prior to March 5, by which date only stragglers were lingering. They swarm where any fresh water is available in this region of salt water.—WM. G. FARGO, *Jackson, Mich.*