

## GENERAL NOTES

Conducted by M. H. Swenk

### Summer Occurrences of the Harris's Sparrow in South Dakota.—

On June 23, 1929, I saw a Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*). My wife had heard and seen it on the preceding day. Other dates that I saw it were June 25, July 4, July 5, and a couple of times during August. I found only one, though on two different occasions I looked searchingly for a possible mate. He appeared normal, and would whistle on every occasion that I saw him.—ADRIAN LARSON, *Arlington, S. D.*

**Four Eggs in the Nest of a Mourning Dove.**—While many accounts of sets of three and four eggs of the Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*) have appeared, it is thought that additional records are desirable.

On April 5, 1928, Mr. Leo A. Luttringer, Jr. found a Mourning Dove nest which held one egg. On the following morning he flushed the parent from this egg. On April 18 we visited the nest and were amazed to find the slight structure filled to capacity with four eggs. Inquiry into the situation has pretty well established the fact that but one pair of Mourning Doves is nesting in this particular woodland; furthermore the shape and size of the eggs seem to indicate that all have been laid by the same bird.

It may be that exposure of two of the eggs during chilly weather induced the female to lay an additional two. All the eggs were fairly fresh, judging from their translucency; but the anxiety of the parent bird indicated that she had been incubating for some time. I incline, at present, to the belief that the eggs laid about April 5 were infertile, or that the small embryos were killed by exposure, and that two additional eggs were subsequently deposited.—GEORGE MIKSCHE SUTTON, *Bethany, W. Va.*

**The Northern Pileated Woodpecker in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania.**—On the evening of June 22, 1929, Oscar C. Reiter and the writer heard, in fairly thin chestnut woods above McGinnis Run in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, a hammering that indicated the Northern Pileated Woodpecker (*Phloeotomus pileatus abieticola*). A visit early the next morning confirmed this. The bird was heard many times, was seen on a tree trunk at short range, and was seen in noisy, cackling flight showing the characteristic white of the wings. A second bird was heard, but not seen. A week later, accompanied by Rheinhold L. Fricke and H. H. Elliott, we made a search for nesting operations. The bird was again seen and heard. Fresh workings on chestnut trees and stumps were found, also older workings indicating residence for several seasons. Many holes were examined but no actual nest was found; perhaps because this bird usually nests several weeks earlier.—SIDNEY K. EASTWOOD, *Pittsburgh, Pa.*

**Unsolved Problems Concerning Upper South Carolina Birds.**—In my efforts to trace more accurately the zone boundaries in the southern foothills, and list several species not before catalogued, several important problems have presented themselves. Why the abundance of Loggerhead Shrikes in the foothills in winter, and so few nests in summer? Why is the presumably northern Orchard Oriole so rare in the Upper Piedmont, though commonly nesting in the Lower? Have we here a southern race in the making? Are not the Meadowlarks reported to me as nesting in the Piedmont really members of the southern race pushing into the dividing territory between the two races, rather than strag-