

Traill's Flycatcher Nesting at Sioux City, Iowa.—While the migration of the small flycatchers is usually quite noticeable in this region, the presence of nesting small flycatchers is rather uncommon. During June and July, 1930, the writer found at least three pairs of Traill's Flycatchers (*Empidonax trailli*) within the city limits. The identification of the birds was kindly verified by Dr. T. C. Stephens. On August 4, young birds just out of the nest were seen as they were being fed by the parents. This species will be watched with interest to see whether it is a regular summer resident, or is an irregular summer visitor.—WM. YOUNCWORTH, *Sioux City, Iowa*.

An Oddly Colored Harris's Sparrow.—While making a field trip in a favorable locality near Sigourney, Iowa, on October 19, 1930, I saw considerable numbers of Tree Sparrows, Slate-colored Juncos, Song Sparrows, White-throated Sparrows and Harris's Sparrows, merged to some extent in one general flock. There were present also a few Cardinals, Chickadees, and Tufted Titmice to add color and animation to the scene.

But what particularly attracted my attention was the very peculiar color of one of the Harris's Sparrows (*Zonotrichia querula*). There were eight or ten of these birds in the flock. The juveniles could easily be distinguished by the absence of black in their plumage. All but one of the adults showed the usual black crown and black throat patches. However, this odd bird's entire head and neck were black. Approximately the same area of this bird's plumage that is red in the adult Red-headed Woodpecker was solid black. It would be interesting to know if any of the other readers of the WILSON BULLETIN have ever noticed this peculiar coloration in a Harris's Sparrow.—E. D. NAUMAN, *Sigourney, Iowa*.

Cavity-Nesting Robins.—On May 19, 1929, while in a sparsely tree-covered pasture, seated near a tree which annually harbors a nesting pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers, a bird, presumably a Starling (as viewed from a distance), was seen to enter a woodpecker nesting cavity. With a desire to obtain an unquestionable identification, the tree was approached and vigorously rapped—but in vain. It was not until the ascent was well in progress that a boisterous Robin (*Planesticus migratorius migratorius*) emerged from the cavity, which was located some twenty feet from the ground. Upon examination, amidst protests from the parent birds, the cavity (which had been enlarged by decomposition) was found to contain a typical mud structure and two naked young Robins. A second hole had been provided by decay, which served as an exit. A second instance of a similar placing of the nest by a Robin has since been brought to my attention. In this case one room of a four-compartment Purple Martin house had been utilized by the birds as a place to bring forth their offspring.

Lack of suitable natural nesting places, coupled with the idiosyncrasies of birds, should account for such peculiar selections.—PAUL A. STEWART, *Leetonia, Ohio*.

Nesting of the Starling in the Chicago Region.—On April 16, 1929, while out with a class of boys, the writer saw three Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) in Thatcher's woods in River Forest, a western suburb of the great metropolis. Not seeing them again on subsequent visits, nothing was thought of the occurrence. On May 21, however, we again saw a Starling, this time on the opposite side of the DesPlaines River, in a tree at the water's edge. The bird flew over to our