

I have not been able to find any reference to this habit in bird literature, but Thomas Nuttall, on page 267 in Vol. 1 of his "Manual of the Ornithology of the United States and Canada" (1832) states that the adult Kingbird regurgitates the indigestible portions of the insects it has eaten. I would like to know if others have observed regurgitation by young Kingbirds and the swallowing of the pellets by the parents.—C. S. BAUMAN, *St. Louis, Mo.*

Erratic Movements of the Red-headed Woodpecker.—The Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) is a fairly common bird, in the summer time, in and about Sigourney and Keokuk County, Iowa, where it may usually be seen most anywhere—by the roadside, on telephone poles, on fences, or in the deep forests—but is rare in the winter time. It is as a rule most common and conspicuous during September, October, and November. However, in September of 1929 it completely disappeared from this vicinity. A trip of about sixty miles to Iowa City and back, during the latter part of the month, revealed only a single individual, which was clinging to a telephone pole as we passed.

Although I traveled considerably on the public roads and in the woods and fields, and was always on the alert looking for birds of any species, I did not see a Red-head until April 30, 1930, when I saw one. This was late for the spring arrival of the species, as the migrants usually begin to appear during the latter part of March or the first part of April. In a few days, however, they were here again in their normal numbers. Mr. J. B. Slate informed me that two of these birds had passed the winter in an oak grove near South English. These were the only ones I learned of as being in this county during a period of about eight months.

During the fall of 1930 they remained here, in their usual numbers, and during the winter of 1930-31 they are present in more than their normal numbers. Aside from the fact that this winter, up to the latter part of January, has not been so cold as winters here usually are, the weather and food supply, for the period of time covered by this report, have been, as far as I am aware, about normal.—E. D. NAUMAN, *Sigourney, Iowa.*

Pugnacious Dispositions of Blue Jays in the Defense of Their Young.—As bird lovers know, the Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata cristata*) ordinarily is shy in the presence of man; but this summer (1930) I observed a very pugnacious disposition on their part when defending their young.

On July 20, while going through a pasture adjoining our farm, I noticed two objects clinging to the base of the trunk of a large beech, and, as I had not noticed such objects on this tree before, I investigated and found that they were young Blue Jays that had but recently left the nest, since they could not fly very well. They did not move until I picked them up, when they began to call for help as loudly as they could. Until then there had been no adult jays in sight, but the minute the young started calling, both parents were in the trees above my head, screaming with all their might and flying about from tree to tree. The young then stopped their calling and sat on my fingers, as tame as a couple of little chicks.

But the adult jays became furious, and came darting at my head from the nearby trees, finally actually striking me on the top of the head. They took turns flying at me and striking me, and continued this for some time, screaming all the while. Then one young bird jumped from my fingers to the ground, and