

17. I collected the incubating female so as to be sure of the identification.

On August 21, 1949, I found an empty nest of the same sort not far from the first.

On August 28, 1949, I found an unfinished nest. It contained one egg (weight 0.48 grams) on September 4 and 5. On September 11 it held two eggs and the female was incubating. When I visited it several days later the eggs, as well as the female bird, were gone.

On August 26, 1950, I found a nest through watching the owner fly to it. It contained a well-fledged young bird which flew off as I approached. I collected the adult female.—FR. HAVERSCHMIDT, *P. O. Box 644, Paramaribo, Surinam, Dutch Guiana.*

Clark's Nutcracker in the Chisos Mountains, Texas.—On October 20, 1950, Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Letson, of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and I observed a Clark's Nutcracker (*Nucifraga columbiana*) in the Chisos Mountains, in Big Bend International Park, Brewster County, Texas. The bird was feeding in the tops of not very high pinyon pines (*Pinus edulis*) at an elevation of about 6000 feet on the north side of the divide between The Basin and Juniper Canyon. We first encountered it in the vicinity of the 'cactus garden' on the recently constructed foot trail leading to Lost Mine Peak from the road at the rim of The Basin. The spot was approximately one and one-half miles north of Upper Juniper Spring and the same distance west of Lost Mine Peak. We watched the bird for twenty minutes as it moved about, sometimes flashing its black and white wings and tail while balancing at the tip of a slender branch. It seemed quite unconcerned by our presence, allowing us to approach to within 50 feet of the tree in which it was feeding.

Nucifraga columbiana was not listed by Van Tyne and Sutton from Brewster County, Texas (1937. *Univ. Mich. Mus. Zool. Misc. Publ.*, 37), nor by Burleigh and Lowery from the Guadalupe Mountains of western Texas (1940. *La. State Univ. Occ. Papers No. 8*). The species is believed to range normally southward as far as southern New Mexico, southern Arizona and northern Baja California. Starker Leopold has reported it from the State of Nuevo León, in México (1946. *Condor*, 48: 278). As Bent (1946. *U. S. Natl. Mus. Bull.* 191: 321) has pointed out, "the nutcracker is given to erratic wanderings that sometimes take it considerable distance from its normal range."—JOHN E. GALLEY, *1610 W. Holloway Ave., Midland, Texas.*

First successful nesting of the Cerulean Warbler in New Jersey.—On June 6, 1950, at a picnic in the Greenbrook Sanctuary of the Palisades Interstate Park in New Jersey, less than five miles north of the George Washington Bridge, Mrs. Marjorie Kirkpatrick of Livingston, New Jersey, reported hearing the songs of a Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*). After a search, a dozen or so of us located a pair of the warblers and their partly finished nest. The nest was in a sweet gum well out on a branch high over a junction of paths and a road along which the whole party had passed earlier in the day. Nesting material was being gathered on the ground and from an old vireo nest higher in the same tree. The male sang many times as the female added material to the nest. The presence of the several observers had no noticeable effect on the birds.

On June 10, when I next visited the nest, the female was on it and the male was singing in a nearby tree. On June 17 at 6:30 a.m. Mr. Dater and I again visited the nest. The female was sitting and the male singing, as before. A storm of heavy rain and high wind broke just after our arrival. We checked once more before leaving the area, finding that things seemed to be normal. Later in the day, however, another observer found the nest abandoned and noted a gaping hole in it. Subsequently, Mr. Collins, the park naturalist, detected egg remains on the ground below.

On July 13 two other members of the Ridgewood Audubon Society and I succeeded in finding a second Cerulean Warbler nest some two hundred feet from the first. The new nest was in an oak about thirty-six feet from the ground. In the nest we could see two young

birds, which seemed about ready to leave. They were fed at ten minute intervals by both parents, but during our two hours of observation the parents never arrived at the nest at the same time. On July 15 observers reported that the young had left.

Early in November Mr. Dater cut down the nest. It agrees in general appearance and structure with nests described by Chapman (1907. "The Warblers of North America," p. 174), except that there is a great deal of soft, pulpy white paper (perhaps weathered paper napkins left by picnickers) in the base and wall. This paper, which entirely surrounds some of the supporting twigs, is visible even inside the cup. The walls and lining are very thin.

The Cerulean Warbler has been regarded as a rare migrant in New Jersey. The nearest nesting area has been Dutchess County, New York, on the other side of the Hudson River farther north (Cruikshank, 1942. "Birds Around New York City," p. 392). In 1947 a female built a nest near Lyons, New Jersey, but the eggs never hatched (Nichols, 1947. *Audubon Field Notes*, 1: 172).—ELEANOR E. (MRS. J. Y. JR.) DATER, 259 Grove St., Ramsey, New Jersey.

English Sparrows eating locust leaf-miners.—For the past several seasons there has been a severe outbreak of the locust leaf-miner (*Chalepus dorsalis* Thunberg) on black locust in the central Appalachian region. Adult beetles appear about the first of June, depositing their eggs within the tissues of the locust leaves. Larvae feed on the tissues between the two outer surfaces, causing blotch mines in the leaves. Often practically every leaf on a tree is affected and the whole tree turns brown. Pupae form within the curled-up edges of the leaf epidermis in late July or early August.

My attention has frequently been called to large numbers of English Sparrows, *Passer domesticus* (Linnaeus), feeding in trees infested with these locust leaf-miners. During the summer of 1950 I repeatedly watched, through binoculars, these birds searching the locust leaves and feeding on adult beetles, larvae, and pupae. The birds systematically searched around the curled-up edges of the browned leaf epidermis. Flocks of thirty to fifty birds regularly fed in this manner in a locust tree near my home at Morgantown, West Virginia. On July 5, I saw one English Sparrow eat eleven larvae in a period of a little more than three minutes.

The leaf-miner outbreak has been an extensive one, and I do not mean to suggest that English Sparrows have been an important factor in the control of the pest. It is of interest, however, to see this much-maligned bird doing useful work in destroying shade-tree insects.—MAURICE BROOKS, *Division of Forestry, West Virginia University, Morgantown.*

An aberrantly colored Summer Tanager.—On May 17, 1950, while studying the bird population of a tract of 60-year-old loblolly and shortleaf pine (*Pinus taeda* and *P. echinata*) about one mile south of Athens, Clarke County, Georgia, I observed an adult male Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) in company with a slightly smaller red and yellow bird which at first I believed to be a young male. Realizing that young birds were not even out of the nest at that early date, I tried to recall whether I had ever before seen a red and yellow subadult male of that sort in the spring. While watching the two birds I noticed that the adult male was *courting* the other. I collected the red and yellow bird. Dissection revealed it to be an adult female with several well-developed ova, the largest about 10 mm. in diameter. No malignancy or abnormality was perceptible in the ovary or any other internal organ.

In color the specimen resembles an adult male, especially above. Nowhere, except possibly on the tail, is the red quite as bright as that of an average adult male, but the patches of dull olive-green are not noticeable, the general effect being of a *red* bird. Actually, the whole scapular tract on the right side is olive green while that on the left is largely red. In both wings some lesser coverts, middle coverts, greater coverts and remiges are definitely red, others definitely olive green. In both wings the four outermost primaries and all the primary coverts