

at the University of Pennsylvania at 10:30 a.m. on June 12. Just four days later, on June 16, she had found her way back and I saw her enter the trap at 10:15 a.m. This female then repeated again on June 18 (twice), 19, 20, 21, and 22. There are no further records of her.—HAROLD B. WOOD, 3016 N. Second Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, January 28, 1951.

Flight-speed of the Mourning Dove.—While driving toward Ridgetown, Ontario, on June 6, 1951, I had an opportunity to “clock” the speed in flight of a Mourning Dove, *Zenaidura macroura*.

The bird flushed from a hedgerow on the left side of the road and flew, in typical, direct flight, parallel with the vehicle, a distance of more than three-tenths of a mile. It was about twenty-five feet from my car, and flew approximately five feet above the ground. Adjusting the speed of the automobile to that of the bird, I discovered that the dove was moving at 55 miles per hour, as indicated by the speedometer of the vehicle. The flight, which was along a straight highway and “cross-wind,” ended when the dove entered a roadside thicket.—ERIC WALTER BASTIN, 43, Inglewood Drive, Hamilton, Ontario, August 27, 1951.



Female Cowbird hung in an old nest of Baltimore Oriole.—While inspecting nesting territories of the Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) eight miles northwest of Ann Arbor, Michigan, I found the results of an interesting bird catastrophe. On May 6, 1951, I discovered the remains of four old oriole nests in a row of trees along a small stream in an open pasture. From one oriole nest dangled a female Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*), obviously dead for no more than a few weeks. On May 8, returning with climbing irons and ropes, I succeeded in cutting down the nest and found that the Cowbird hung by a single loop of horsehair. The body was somewhat desiccated but was fairly intact. Dissection of the body cavity showed no signs of the hard parts of an egg, yet it is hard to believe that the Cowbird was doing anything other than looking into old nests

when caught and strangled. This furnishes evidence additional to that already in the literature that the Cowbird does not always find nests solely by watching the activity of other birds.

Two of the old oriole nests mentioned above were unusual in the great amount of horsehair used in their construction; the remains of the one pictured contained well over eighty percent horsehair.—K. T. ROGERS, Dept. of Anatomy, E. Medical Bldg., Ann Arbor, Michigan, June 8, 1951.

Sutton's Warbler (*Dendroica potomac*) again observed in West Virginia.—In late May, 1950, eight members of the Buffalo Ornithological Society visited the eastern

panhandle of West Virginia to observe the bird life of that region and to attempt again to locate Sutton's Warbler. After searching for some time along the Potomac near Shepherdstown, we spent several hours on Opequon Creek, about four or five miles southeast of Martinsburg, in an area known locally as Cose Dale. Here we heard a number of likely-sounding warbler songs, but each singer turned out to be a Parula Warbler (*Parula americana*).

I did, however, locate one Sutton's Warbler about forty feet up in an ash tree, near the creek at Dandridge's Dam, and was able to show it to every member of our party. The bird was in sight for several minutes, during part of which period it preened, allowing careful study of its entire underparts and part of its back. The fact that it did not sing led us to believe that it was a female. All of us noted the bright yellow throat, black-bordered at the side, the black extending slightly forward, tending to form a very incomplete ring across the breast. There was a white line over the eye, but no white area down the side of the neck nor any heavy black side-striping such as characterizes the Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*). One of our observers, Bernard Nathan, was able to make out the greenish tinge on the back. Parts of the back visible to me seemed to be uniformly grayish and the crown also was gray, but darker. The bird later flew into a large sycamore and was soon lost to sight. Aside from Nathan and myself, the following persons saw the bird: Mr. and Mrs. Edward C. Ulrich, Heather Thorpe, William Almendinger, Robert Sundell, and Irwin Woldman. The date was May 29.

Next morning we continued our search, but without success. The heavy foliage could easily have hidden the birds, of course.

In early June 1951, we spent several days in the vicinity of Cose Dale and Dandridge's Dam, as well as along the banks of the Potomac and other neighboring areas, but were unsuccessful in locating Sutton's Warbler. However, we intend to continue our search for the bird and its nest, and thus ascertain whether both birds of the pair prove to be *Dendroica potomac*. We wish to thank Maurice Brooks, of West Virginia University, and Miss Serena Dandridge, of Shepherdstown, for aid and suggestions given our group; also Miss Dandridge and Miss Nina Mitchell for their hospitality.—HAROLD D. MITCHELL, 378 Crescent Avenue, Buffalo 14, New York, September 1, 1951.

Black Vulture depredations at Kentucky Woodlands.—The owner of a large farm within the area of Kentucky Woodlands Wildlife Refuge between the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers reported that he had lost a number of young pigs from attacks by Black Vultures (*Coragyps atratus*). I went to his farm on April 12, 1949, to investigate the report. He showed us three young pigs that had survived recent attacks. The pigs' tails were lacerated and broken, but the vultures had been driven away before serious damage had been done. The farmer estimated that vultures may have killed as many as 40 pigs on his farm during the previous year and a half. He had not, however, actually seen more than half that number being eaten by the predators. He reported that the birds attacked the tail and rectum and pulled out the intestines. Recently he had arrived at the scene of an attack in time to drive away several of the vultures from pigs still alive, but so badly injured that they died later. Although usually only new-born pigs were eaten, he described one case of a pig two weeks old that had been badly injured. The owner had also lost two calves which he thought had been killed by Black Vultures.

The farmer was able to describe accurately the differences between Black Vultures and Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura*) and assured us that only the former had been responsible for the depredations. The refuge manager, Talbott Clarke, verified many of the details in the farmer's account.