

**Casting of a Pileated Woodpecker.**—On February 2, 1952, in a forest of hemlock and hardwood trees on Green Hill, Mahwah, Bergen County, New Jersey, we flushed an adult male Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) from a dead hemlock tree where he had been chiseling characteristic wedge-shaped holes. The ground beneath was covered with fresh chips. On top of the chips and close to the tree was a fecal casting of the bird.

The casting resembled that of a chicken (*Gallus*). It was composed of a paper-like sheath encasing a solid mass of chitinous material. The sheath was light greenish with traces of dark green. Inside, the chitinous matter, apparently mouth and leg parts of ants, resembled tobacco. The casting was 3 to 3½ inches long and 5/16 inches in diameter. The diameter was easy to measure but the length difficult because the casting broke when I attempted to measure it. After the casting dried out, the paper-like sheath became whitish in color.

I sent the casting to Dr. Marion R. Smith, of the U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C., for examination. The following is his reply: "The casting of the pileated woodpecker appears to contain, exclusively, fragments of workers of the black carpenter ant, *Camponotus pennsylvanicus* (Degeer). It is impossible to estimate definitely the number of workers contained in the casting, but I believe a conservative guess would be a hundred more or less. The carpenter ant, as you may know, is a wood nesting form with variable sized workers. Some of the workers are very large and it would not take the fragments of many of these workers to give the appearance of more individuals involved than there really are."

A few days later I revisited the place and retrieved another short piece (about an inch) of the casting which I knew had fallen into the chips on the first visit. This piece would raise the number of ants in the casting about one-third.—ELEANOR E. (MRS. JOHN Y.) DATER, *Ramsey, New Jersey, November 20, 1952.*

**Five nestings of a pair of captive Mourning Doves.**—A pair of Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura macroura*) kept at the Ornithology Laboratory at Ohio State University during the summer of 1951 made five nesting attempts which are shown below.

Nesting Attempt	Eggs Laid	Hatched	Fledged
1.	2 (early in April)		Deserted
2.	1 no date	May 1	May 12
3.	1 May 15	May 30	Both, June 14
	1 May 16	May 31	
4.	1 June 18	July 2	July 12
	1 June 19	July 4	July 15
5.	1 July 18	Aug. 2	Both, Aug. 14
	1 July 19	Aug. 3	

The birds were confined in a pen 6 feet × 9 feet × 6 feet. The nest used for the entire period was a small watering crock located in a three-sided covered box. Except for some brief interchanges the male incubated from about 7:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. and the female stayed on the nest at night. The young of one nest were fed by the male at least until both eggs of the next clutch were laid. A careful check on egg laying times was not kept but both eggs of set No. 4 were laid in the afternoon, one at 5:40 p.m., the other between 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.—L. S. PUTNAM AND C. E. KNOEDER, *Dept. of Zoology and Entomology, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, May 20, 1953.*