

The most significant features of the reactions of adults and young to the abnormal situation described above may be briefly summarized as follows: the huddling of the young in the partial enclosure of the boards; brooding of the young on the ground by at least one adult; removal of feces from the ground where the young had been for more than 24 hours; and roosting of the adult at the nest rather than with the young.

The minimum temperature the night of July 8, as registered by a maximum-minimum thermometer laid on the ground near the young was 51° F. The temperature of the previous night was not measured there but was probably similar.—FREDERICK H. TEST, *Department of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan*, and ELIZABETH R. VANDEGRIFT, *Muskegon, Michigan, March 23, 1954*.

**Bob-white eggs in pheasant nest.**—The parasitic practice of the European Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*) and our cowbirds (*Molothrus*) in depositing their eggs in the nests of other birds is well known.



The practice is probably more common than is generally supposed in isolated cases among several species of birds. The accompanying half-tone shows a nest of the Ring-necked pheasant (*Phasianus colchichus*) filled with eggs of the Bob-white (*Colinus virginianus*). It was discovered on the property of Dr. Claire Straith on the outskirts of Detroit, Michigan. This pheasant nest was first found when there were about six pheasant eggs present. About one egg was added daily for several days and then quail eggs began to appear, so that about a week later there were thirteen pheasant eggs and eight quail eggs present in the nest, at which time the photograph was taken. The pheasant abandoned the nest and the eggs all spoiled.

The above incident was referred to D. W. Douglass of the Technical Staff of the Michigan Department of Conservation, who replied as follows: "Mr. Tucker discussed with me your letter regarding quail eggs in a pheasant nest. I have asked around the Division to see if we could get any definite records of this sort. We have not made an exhaustive effort but have so far failed to come up with any cases. However, referring to Stoddard's 'The Bobwhite Quail,' (1932, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York) we find that he mentions that so-called aggregate or dump nests, in which several female quail deposit eggs in one nest, are fairly common in the quail country.

"There have been found as many as twenty-eight eggs in one nest with reports of as many as forty or more from other areas. Also, Stoddard reports on Bob-whites laying in chicken nests. It would not be at all surprising, therefore, if occasionally a quail laid eggs in a pheasant nest. This is a rather common occurrence among many birds."—ALEXANDER W. BLAIN, 2201 Jefferson Avenue East, Detroit 7, Michigan, November 2, 1953.