

Ibid., 69:86, Fig. 1). Thus it remained for nearly two minutes, food in bill, before departing. The metal was quite warm.

The role of strong light relative to warm surface is by no means clear in these cases, yet it seemed to me that kingbird, thrasher, and jay all were reacting mainly to the unusually warm surfaces. One wonders whether the behavior of immature Bank Swallows (*Riparia riparia*) that congregated by the thousands on pavement of a "6,000-car parking lot" in Michigan, during late hours of a July morning, may have been triggered by a high surface temperature, possible under the conditions stated (Crockett and Nickell, 1955. *Jack-Pine Warbler*, 33:86). These birds "appeared to be displaying incipient mating, nest building, and brooding behavior." Similarly suggestive is an account of immature "barn swallows" on Fire Island, N.Y., "at play" in early fall (Booth, 1932. *Nature Magazine*, 20:21-22). For about 30 minutes some 40 birds jostled to launch themselves down the face of a sand dune on their "stomachs," not flying but using wings "as if they were oars." Ascent was made by "flapping and pushing their wings in the sand in the funniest manner." Their odd tracks extended the height of the slope. Chill of weather and warmth of sand were seen as factors in this activity, in which "parent birds" took no part.—LOVIE M. WHITAKER, 1204 West Brooks Street, Norman, Oklahoma, January 18, 1960.

Bell's Vireo in New Jersey.—On September 15, 1959, during the Operation Recovery bird-banding program at Island Beach, New Jersey, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schnitzer of Mountainside, N.J., trapped in a mist net a small, brown-eyed vireo unfamiliar to them. They brought the bird to banding headquarters where it was identified as a Bell's Vireo (*Vireo bellii*). Recognizing that the presence of this species in New Jersey had never been verified, I collected the bird with their approval. It was a female with skull not ossified; it weighed 10.2 grams; it was in little-fat condition; and the largest ovum was less than 1 mm. I have compared the specimen with reference material in the American Museum of Natural History collection and identified it as a representative of the Mid-western race *V. b. bellii*. Subspecific determination was confirmed by Eugene Eisenmann.

Although this species has been reported previously from New Jersey (Fables, 1955. *Ann. List of New Jersey Birds*, p. 75) and from the New York City region (Cruikshank, 1942. *Birds Around New York City*, *Amer. Mus. of Nat. Hist. Handbook Series* No. 13:364), both of these writers have rightly considered the species as "hypothetical," pointing out the possibility of confusion with immatures of *V. griseus*. I am unable to find any undoubted recent records for the east coast. Apparently the only other specimen from east of the Appalachians was taken by Ned Dearborn in Durham, New Hampshire, on the extraordinary date of November 11, 1897 (Brewster, 1901. *Auk*, 18:274).

I am indebted to the late Dr. F. C. Lincoln for making data on previous records available to me.—JOSEPH R. JEHL, JR., 385 Grove Street, Clifton, New Jersey, October 23, 1959.

American Coot successfully escapes from a Bald Eagle.—On March 20, 1955, I was overlooking a portion of the Mannington marshes northeast of the city of Salem, New Jersey. Almost 6 inches of snow had fallen during the night but the morning was clear. A mixed flock of ducks including Pintail, Baldpate, Black, Green-winged Teal and a few Mallard were feeding along the edge of open water extending from the road about 30 yards to the north where marshy vegetation began and continuing for another 50 yards to higher ground with a border of shrubbery and small trees. In the open water was a flock of about 50 Coots (*Fulica americana*). I had finished scanning the