

The white swan-louse, *Ornithobius cygni*, was abundant upon its plumage. There were no parasites in the digestive tract and but three specimens of *Eurycerca* in the heart muscle. Some thirty pellets of lead shot in the gizzard, many of them eroded almost away, pointed to lead poisoning as the cause of death.

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**A white Fish Crow.**—This past October (1945) the zoological park was informed by telephone that a white crow had been seen in the vicinity of Ardmore, Maryland. Ardmore is a small village about ten miles northeast of the District of Columbia. I immediately went to the locality of the reported bird and talked with the owner of the property upon which the bird had been seen. I walked around the area and found the bird perched upon the terminal branch of a Virginia pine. It flew to a near-by tree and through my binoculars appeared to be a total albino specimen. By its manner of flight and call (the voice had a nasal pitch, a hoarse *car*, as if it talked through its nose) I identified the bird as a Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*). Albinism is not infrequent among birds and may occur in any species. However, it is rarely complete but more frequently affects only a part of the plumage, when it is usually symmetrical; that is, if a feather in one wing be white the corresponding feather in the other wing will also be white.—MALCOLM DAVIS, *The National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C.*

**Albino Robin at Crawfordsville, Indiana.**—On October 1, 1945, a partially albino Robin was observed on the campus of Wabash College. When first seen, the bird was on the ground, a member of a flock of feeding birds. When it flew to a near-by low tree, its peculiar pigmentation was striking to the eye.

The feathers of the entire back and wings were predominantly white, but mixed with a few normally pigmented feathers. The upper surface of the tail appeared white, yet when the tail was spread in flight, it was seen that two or three of the rectrices were dark. The entire head was pigmented normally for a robin. The eyes were not pink. The flanks were pure white. The breast was a peculiar mixture of white with splotches of light orange coloration. The legs and feet seemed to be normally pigmented.

This partial albino was observed for several minutes both on the ground and in near-by trees. It stood out in marked contrast to the other birds, although its peculiar color did not seem to affect in any way its social behavior as a member of the flock. At one time the Robin flew into a tree and was observed within a few feet of a Black-throated Green Warbler. It seemed to the observer that all the hues of the spectrum were reflected in the feathers of these two highly colorful birds.

It is of interest to note that during August one of my students reported an albino Robin on our campus. Undoubtedly, this is the same bird which, therefore, had been

in Crawfordsville for several months.—HOWARD H. VOGEL, JR., *Dept. of Zoology, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Louisiana.*

**Unusual nesting of the Prothonotary Warbler.**—On May 28, 1939, I was shown the nest of a Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) near Gumboro, Sussex County, Delaware, placed in an open central fork of a small hop hornbeam or ironwood tree (*Ostrya virginia*) six inches in diameter. The nest was six feet from the ground. It was constructed of grasses, parts of leaves, and fine shreds of bark, and was three and one-half inches in diameter and four inches deep. Judging from the appearance of the nest and the material of which it was composed, I believe that it was built the year before.

I approached the nest quietly, and from beneath I could see nothing on the nest. When I moved my hand toward it, however, a bird flew off and perched on a bush a few feet away where I identified it as a female Prothonotary Warbler. The nest contained five typical eggs of the species.

From a fairly extensive perusal of the literature, it appears that the closest approach to nesting in an exposed nest is that described by Wright and Harper (Auk, 30: 500, 1913): "In each case (4) the nests were not in deep holes with narrow openings, but in open cavities where the eggs or young could be plainly seen."

We are unable to say that the nest in question was built by the Prothonotary Warbler, but the bird was at least using it. That such was the case is of interest because it is so at variance with the usual habit of nesting in a more or less closed cavity.—ALBERT E. CONWAY, *Dept. of Biological Sciences, Drexel Institute of Technology, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.*

**Acorn storing by *Balanosphyra formicivora* in Panamá.**—In late July, 1945, I spent a few days in the beautiful El Volcán region of Panamá (Chiriquí Province) at an altitude of about 5,200 feet. An automobile highway has been under construction for some time and small planters have burned over, for maize growing, considerable land immediately adjacent to the road, leaving many dead trees. As a result woodpeckers are much in evidence, and the Streaked-chested Woodpecker, *Balanosphyra formicivora striatipectus*, is particularly numerous. In view of the report by van Rossem that he found no evidence of the storing of acorns by woodpeckers of this species in El Salvador, as is done by the representatives in the United States (Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser., 23: 317, 1938), the opportunity seemed favorable to determine whether the Panamá race was entitled to be called an acorn-storing woodpecker. I had no difficulty in finding a stub decorated with the characteristic acorn-filled borings and I watched one bird in the process of inserting an acorn.—EUGENE EISENMANN, *Linnaean Society of New York, New York, N. Y.*

**Birds aboard ship.**—A female Knot, *Calidrus canutus*, in autumn plumage, was collected aboard the Liverpool-bound troopship, S. S. John Walker, on September 9, 1945. Location: 22° 15' N.; 50° 12' E., about 500 miles due south of the tip of Ireland. On the preceding two days, winds were 6 and 7 force. The bird was obviously fatigued and was collected by dropping a mattress on it. The stomach was tightly contracted and empty save for a few dark specks.

At 1200, on October 1, 1945, aboard the same ship, Boston-bound, a Golden Crowned Sparrow, *Zonotricha coronata*, was observed. Location: 42° 34' N.; 54° 48' W., three days out of Boston. Although it was noticeably fatigued, attempts to capture it were unsuccessful. It left the deck at 1230 and when last seen was flying almost due west ahead of the ship and undulating ten to fifteen feet above the crests of the waves.—LT. THANE A. RINEY, *Trans. Serv. Pier 2, Brooklyn 20, N. Y.*