

restlessness and chirping prior to settling down for the night. Evergreens still not in use.

11 November -- No change in behavior from 4 November. Leaf-fall is nearly complete.

12 November -- High winds prevailed all day and well into the night as a weather front passed through Raleigh. No birds are roosting in the elms. The mixed flock is now in the evergreen magnolias (30-40 feet tall), about 125 yards to the south of the elms.

13 November -- The weather is calm, but the birds are roosting totally in the evergreens.

18 November -- The main body of the flock shifted to other trees within the row of evergreens, but none returned to the nearby deciduous trees.

20-23 November -- No change in bird behavior.

This flock of birds preferred deciduous to evergreen trees for autumn roosting even when leaf-fall of deciduous trees was nearly complete. A change in weather initiated the shift to roosting in evergreens, and after passage of the front the flock did not return to roosting sites in deciduous trees.

Summer Record of the Scarlet Tanager In Wake County, N.C.

HARRY E. LeGRAND JR.
331 Yadkin Drive, Raleigh, N.C.

3 September 1969

This summer while birding at William B. Umstead State Park in northwestern Wake County, my brother Edmund and I saw and heard Scarlet Tanagers (*Piranga olivacea*) on several occasions. Our first summer record of this species from Wake County came when Edmund found a dead male on a road in the park on 9 June 1969. On 22 June I observed two males, both singing. Edmund and I again found three birds in the park on 28 June. All were singing males, and two were in the same locations as on 22 June. Another trip to the park on 19 July yielded three singing males. Finally, on 23 August a single female or immature bird was seen. Despite the several observations of singing males no positive evidence of nesting was found. All birds mentioned above were in medium growth mixed woodlands.

In addition to the sightings in Umstead Park, a single bird was heard singing on 3 July 1969 about 10 miles N of Raleigh.

These records seem to indicate that the Scarlet Tanager is present in some numbers throughout the summer in northwestern Wake County. Several other recent unpublished summer reports of Scarlet Tanagers in Wake County support this idea. Scarlet Tanagers are presently known to breed to some extent in North Carolina east to Durham County (*Birds of North Carolina*, 1959). R.H. Siler (*Chat*, 27:57, 1963) found an active nest in Wayne County, N.C., at Cliffs of Neuse State Park in June 1963.

An Unusual Nest Site of the Slate-colored Junco

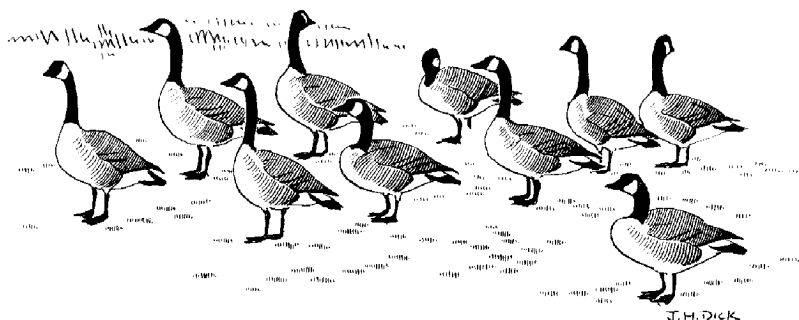
MARCUS B. SIMPSON, JR.
P. O. Box 167, Statesville, N.C.

27 July 1969

On 12 June 1969 James White discovered a nest of the Slate-colored Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) inside a roof drainage gutter on the north side of the main laboratory building at the Highlands Biological Station, Highlands, N.C. The gutter and nest were situated 9 feet and 5 inches above the ground, and on first examination 3 eggs were noted. Considering the heavy rainfall at Highlands, the choice of such a site seemed particularly unusual and precarious, so I checked the nest on three subsequent occasions to determine its fate. On 16 June one blind, naked nestling was present and no trace of any

of the eggs remained. By 24 June the nestling was well feathered and occupied practically the entire nest; and on 27 June the young bird had left the nest and was seen in a nearby shrub.

As pointed out by Stupka (*Notes on the Birds of Great Smoky Mountains National Park*, 1963) the Junco ordinarily nests on the ground, choosing the edge of a bank, rock ledge, or the base of a tree trunk for its building site. Occasionally, nests are placed in trees or shrubs, however, ranging as high as 30 feet, according to Garner (*J. Tenn. Acad. Sci.*, 1:31-40, 1926). Apparently the only records of the birds' utilizing sites other than the ground or low vegetation were reported by Sprunt (*Auk*, 41:610-612, 1924; *Auk*, 47:568, 1930) who described three such nests: one in a tin can at the edge of a tennis court, another on the rafter of a garage, and a third in a fern basket, all 3 records coming from Blowing Rock, N.C.



Briefs for the Files

Compiled by JAMES F. PARNELL

(all dates 1969 unless otherwise listed)

COMMON LOON—One was present near North Wilkesboro, N.C., on the Kerr Scott Reservoir between 10 September and 1 December, Wendell Smith.

RED-THROATED LOON—One was inland at Raleigh, N.C., on 6 December, Robert Hader.

HORNED GREBE—Flocks of 12 and 35 were found near Raleigh on 22 November by Robert Hader.

GREATER SHEARWATER—A single bird found freshly dead on the beach at Avon, N.C., on 3 November was late for North Carolina waters, Kenneth Parkes.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT—Individuals were seen near Raleigh on 28 October and on 11 and 12 December by Robert Hader.

WHITE IBIS—Three immature birds were found well inland at High Point, N.C., on 14 August by David Burney and John Austin, with single birds seen there on 23 August and 13 September by James Mattocks. Two were also found at Raleigh on 16 August