

Notre Dame, Nov. 23, 1927. Brother Alphonsus.

From Evansville to Lake Michigan and from Aurora to Fort Wayne, we have recent records. These records, especially in its northern range, are variable. Sometimes for two or more years a site will be occupied for nesting, then the birds may not be seen for years, or may not be found again.

## NESTING OF THE SYCAMORE WARBLER.

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AMOS W. BUTLER, Indianapolis.

While the sycamore warbler (*Dendroica dominica albilora* Ridgway) is a common summer resident, few there are who know it and fewer still who have found and recognized its nest. Mrs. Harry Bucklin, of Brazil, is indeed fortunate in her knowledge of and acquaintance with this bird. In her collection I found last summer the first sycamore warbler's nest I ever saw. In conversation I learned she knew the haunts of these birds and for several years past had observed their nests. After the season was over, on two occasions she was able to secure the nest. One of these (A) she has; the other (B) she kindly presented to me. Both nests were taken at Pennyroyal, Clay County, Indiana, the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Bucklin. Both nests were built in the same sycamore tree but three years apart.

Nest "A" was built about 35 or 40 feet above the ground in a flat crotch, on an approximately horizontal limb of a large sycamore tree. The birds were seen building on April 26, 1924, but they are usually seen first about the middle of April. One date is April 16. The nest measures as follows: Outside diameter, 2.50 inches; inside diameter, 1.65; outside height, 2 inches; inside depth, 1.75 inches.

The heavier frame was composed of shreds of grapevine bark, bits of the covering and coarser fibre of weeds, mingled with which were many small pieces of cotton cord or ravelings. The nest was lined and its entire bottom was composed of the soft down obtained from dry sycamore balls. In fact, the nest really had no foundation for the bottom. The lining material reached through to the limb. The nest was taken after the young had left.

Nest "B" was built about May 14. The birds were first seen April 17, 1927. The nest was about 75 feet above the ground in a crotch of small branches toward the end of a sycamore limb which was not strong enough to bear one's weight. It was so hidden by the foliage that it could not be seen until some of the leaves fell this fall. Then it was secured but was mashed against another limb so that its measurements doubtless are only approximately correct.

The nest is composed of weed and other vegetable fibres, including the shredded bark of grape-vine and a few horse hairs. It was lined with down from plants, including that from the ripened sycamore balls.

The bottom of the nest was cushioned entirely by the latter. Measurements (approximate): outside diameter, 3 inches; inside diameter, 1.50 inches; height, outside 2.75 inches; inside depth, 1.45 inches.

The sycamore warbler is well named. It is partial to sycamore groves. It frequents the sycamore trees along streams, especially their smaller tributaries. Its food is largely obtained from the sycamore. In a sycamore it builds its nest and lines it with the down from the last year's sycamore balls.