

mostly one story and has a tarred, pebble-covered, flat roof. In the immediate area of the school are several acres of cut lawn and further away some houses and hay-fields, some of which are cut annually. That evening when I was talking to the two custodians, asking for permission to roam the school ground, they told me that these "long-legged and long-necked" birds had a nest on the roof last year. I asked if they really did not mean a nighthawk and described the nighthawk. They said that neither this nor the killdeer which I described were the birds with the nest. The bird was streaked above and below, brownish, had long legs, a long thin neck and a small head. The nest was in a hollow among the pebbles on the roof and had two eggs. The birds gave the broken-wing display whenever anyone walked near the nest on the roof. Both custodians were within 10-15 feet of the birds on the roof. Since both of them have worked at the school since 1956-57, they are familiar with the plovers that frequent the school ground, even though they do not know the birds by name. They told me that the birds on the roof were the same as the ones seen commonly on the lawn.

Later when I went to the back of the school and was photographing the two young that I had caught, one of the custodians came and pointed over my head to a bird atop a power pole, saying that that bird was one of the same kind that nested on the roof last year. Atop the pole was one of the nervous-looking parents of the two young I held. I am convinced that their story is authentic.

That evening, three adults and two young were seen. On June 30, 1965 only one banded young and at least five adults were seen. Only the one adult that defended the banded young gave any inclination of parental responsibility. The other four adults were shy and wary. They may have nested elsewhere nearby and had come to the school lawn to feed on the abundant insect life that attracted about a dozen other species of birds.

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An Unusual Downy Woodpecker Plumage: On Feb. 27, 1965 a partially albino Downy Woodpecker (*Dendrocopus pubescens*) was observed at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Fearnside of Fishers, N.Y. The bird, a female, appeared normal about the head and neck but the wings, back and tail were brown where the color is normally black. In addition, the tips of the primaries were nearly all white. In flight the bird appeared quite bizarre, flashing a great deal of brown. It was observed by the Fearnside, Allen Kemnitzer of Webster and myself, and photographed by Mr. Fearnside.

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Winter Food of Long-eared Owls: In the winter of 1964-65 four Long-eared Owls (*Asio otus*) roosted in a small pine-spruce grove north of Liverpool, N.Y. They were first discovered on 6 March 1965 and were seen subsequently by several observers. Because we could find little published material relating to the winter food habits of the Long-eared Owl, we collected and dissected all the pellets we could find in the grove on 24 and 25 June 1965. The skulls found in the pellets were identified by Professor LeRoy C. Stegeman of Syracuse University.

In the pellets were the remains of at least 156 different animals: 1 small passerine (probably *Spizella* or *Junco*), 1 Short-tailed Shrew (*Blarina brevicauda*), 1 Southern Bog Lemming (*Synaptomys cooperi*), and 153 Meadow Vole (*Microtus pennsylvanicus*). Also found in the grove were the remains of a Blue Jay and a Common Grackle, but it could not be determined whether they were prey of the owls.

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