

1953 YORKTON RECORDS



*VEERY NEST (WILSON'S THRUSH)—One cowbird egg and three Veery eggs.
—Photo by Dr. Stuart Houston.*

A large bush at the southwest end of York Lake proved to be an interesting place for Yorkton birdlovers this year. On May 25, Phil and Tony Pawluck found a Mourning Dove nest with 2 eggs and Ruffed Grouse nest with 11 eggs. On May 31, a Yorkton Natural History Society group discovered a Willow Thrush (Veery) nest with one egg—the first nesting record for the district. One June 7, there were 3 thrush eggs and one cowbird egg in the nest.

A Hawk nest with two eggs was found twenty feet up in a poplar on May 31, but several return trips were necessary to establish the certain identity of the parent bird. It proved to be a Cooper's Hawk, the third nesting record for the Yorkton district. Dr. Stuart Houston banded the young birds on July 12th. Chicken feathers were present near the base of the tree.

Another interesting nesting record was obtained when Tony and Phil Pawluck found a Rose-breasted Grosbeak nest in the same locality on June 14th. It was a poorly built structure about seven feet high in a clump of willows and contained three eggs. Two days later the male was flushed from the nest and there were now two young and one egg in the nest.



*Nest of Rose-breasted Grosbeak,
York Lake, June 15, 1953.*

—Photo by Cliff Shaw, Yorkton.