An Arkansas Kingbird and a Blue Grosbeak near Toledo, Ohio.—On September 14, 1930, Miss Marjory Dean and the writer saw an Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) near Little Cedar Point, Lucas County, Ohio. The bird was examined closely in bright sunlight at a distance of thirty feet, both while perched and in flight. Miss Dean was familiar with this species having observed it often on western trips. In his 'Birds of Massachusetts' Mr. Forbush lists twenty occurrences of the Arkansas Kingbird in the New England States—all near the ocean. As the natural route from the west would be along the shores of Lakes Erie and Ontario, I have been watching for this Flycatcher for several years.

In the same locality, an immature Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea caerulea*) was seen on August 17, 1930. As it showed no trace of blue, it probably was a female. The bird was quite tame, and remained almost motionless while I wrote a description of it on the spot. The call note was a sharp "check." My attention was first attracted by the fact that although the bird was unmistakably a Grosbeak, it was obviously neither a Cardinal nor Rose-breasted, our two common species.—Louis W. Campbell, *Toledo, Ohio.*

Two Species of Birds New to Louisiana.—During the field trip of the Chicago Academy of Sciences to Louisiana, in May and June, 1930, two species of birds were collected which seem to be new to the state list. A female Derby Flycatcher (*Pitangus sulphuratus derbianus*) was taken at Chenier au Tigre on May 23, and three male Seaside Sparrows from small islands off the east coast of Louisiana, collected June 9, and 11, appear to be *Passerbulus maritimus howelli*. These specimens were submitted to Mr. James L. Peters for examination. All the Seaside Sparrows taken west of the Mississippi River proved to be *fisheri*.—Earl G. Wright and Alfred M. Bailey, *The Chicago Academy of Sciences.*

Notes on the Twilight Songs of the Scissor-tailed and Crested Flycatchers.—On June 2, 1929, near Cashion, Oklahoma, I had the privilege of hearing the "twilight song" of a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher nesting next the house in which I was staying. At 5.01 A.M. this bird began to shout *pup-pup-pup-pup-pup-pup-perlêep* 16 times a minute for about four minutes. Then for three minutes nothing was heard but a few *pups*. At 5.07 he began again with a new note—*pup-pup-pup-perôo*, lower and less loud than the first phrase, the number of *pups* varying from none to three, the most common number being two. A minute later he started to fly about, but kept up a continuous chatter of *pup-perôo* till 5.12.

He and his mate then flew away, but were back at the nest at 5.18 with loud *pups*. At 5.27 just as the sun was rising over the prairie, the female sat on the barbed wire fence with wings held straight out from her body and her tail spread to its furthest extent. Later the male assumed this same attitude, at the same time saying *peelyer per*. At 5.42 he returned

to the nest and gave a last *pup-pup-perôo.* The nest was 20 feet up in a locust, constructed mostly of cotton; a small nephew kindly climbed the tree and reported one egg.

The *pup-pup-pup-pup-pup-pup-perlêep* was about one second long; intervals between beginnings of phrases varied from 3.5 to 4 seconds. The *pups* were uttered rapidly, giving the effect of a stutter; the emphasis was on the *perlêep.* This note I have heard given on other occasions, but I do not remember having heard the *pup-pup-perôo* before. The utterance of such a large number of these two phrases in succession is unlike any daytime performance of *Muscivora forficata* in my experience. It was a matter of regret that I was unable to make any further observations on the early morning song of this fine bird.

On the same trip to Oklahoma I was fortunate in hearing the twilight songs of four different Crested Flycatchers, one of them on three successive mornings. F. H. Allen (Nat. Hist. 1922, XXII, p. 236) describes it as "one of the most leisurely songs I know for there is a rest of two seconds or more after each phrase." To him the song sounded like *coodle, queedle;* to me it consists of a low *wheeyer,* a pause, then a high *wheeyer* over and over again.

The first bird was heard on a rainy morning May 30 at Snail Brook near Norman—the very same place where I first became acquainted with the song nine years before (Wilson Bull. 1928, XL, p. 255). This song began at 4.50 and lasted until 5.18. The bird was restless, continually flying to a new perch and giving the most irregular song I have ever heard from *Myiarchus crinitus.* It was unusually fast at first; the rate between 5.00 and 5.05 was 35 notes in three different minutes, at 5.06, 25 notes; at 5.13, 23. It also showed more exceptions to the regular alternation of high and low notes than did the other songs, for there were no less than 30 irregularities in six recorded minutes. Intervals between beginnings of notes varied between 1.0, 1.5, 1.8 and 2.8 seconds.

The other songs were recorded at Camp Boulder in the Wichita National Reserve from June 4 to 6; at 4.50 A.M. on the first date three birds were singing within earshot of our tent. With two I recorded only the very ends of their songs; both of these stopped at 5.27. One on June 5 sang the following number of notes a minute from 5.24 to 5.26: 15, 18 and 21, the three minutes showing 7 irregularities. The other bird on June 6 sang 22 and 23 times a minute between 5.20 and 5.21, the two minutes yielding 4 irregularities.

The fourth bird had the longest song of all; on June 4 he was still singing at 5.25, although the other two had stopped; the next day he sang until 5.33. The first day he sang in one spot from 4.55 till 5.10, when he stopped, flew across the creek and began again at once, at 5.17 he uttered a few *wheeps,* flew again, gave three notes of the song, then more *wheeps,* then recommenced the song and was still at it at 5.25 when I had to leave. The number of notes per minute in five minutes between 4.57 and 5.05 were

30, 31, 30, 31 and 29; at 5.11, 28; 5.13, 29; 5.14, 26; 5.19, 29; 5.22, 27. On June 5 from 5.13 to 5.16 he sang 34, 30 and 33 times a minute, between 5.19 and 5.20 30 and 30. At 5.29 he sang 19 notes and at 5.31 only 14; at 5.33 after 5 notes there was a great outburst of *pee whee-pees* which signalized the end of the song. The next day I recorded only two minutes—30 phrases at 5.10, 31 at 5.15.

Ten recorded minutes with this last bird yielded 18 irregularities. All these individuals at times sang two high notes or two low notes together; these were the only irregularities noted with the last bird, but the Snail Brook Flycatcher twice sang three low notes in succession, and the other two indulged in three high notes occasionally. No recorded minute with any of these birds showed a perfect alternation of high and low notes.

The length of these songs surprised me, one lasting 28 minutes and two others more than 35. The typical rate appears to be from 28 to 30 notes a minute, but all four of these birds sang slowly near the end, a change not due to pauses, but merely to a more deliberate rate. A Crested Flycatcher in Arkansas on June 11, 1927 after 8 minutes of the usual song proceeded with great irregularity, using mostly low notes at long intervals for at least 8 more minutes; but the five Oklahoma birds of this species on whose songs I have made some observations sang both phrases with fair regularity to a definite end and after that indulged in no more song notes.—MARGARET M. NICE, *Amherst, Massachusetts.*

Bobolink (Dolichonyx oryzivorus) in Western Montana.—On June 9, 1928, three Bobolinks were identified by Dr. Dana J. Leffingwell, in the Frenchtown Valley about twelve miles northwest of Missoula, Montana. They were observed at close range in a wet alfalfa meadow, apparently feeding. The flight song and the sharp, metalic call note were heard.

A lone bird had been observed the preceding spring in May by Mrs. Samuel Maclay, in the Bitter Root Valley, twelve miles south of Missoula. —MRS. DANA J. LEFFINGWELL, *Pullman, Washington.*

Behaviour of Rusty Blackbird.—About noon, November 6, 1930, in company with my friend Mr. J. Frank Duncan I was walking through a tract of partly wooded pasture land belonging to his estate. A flock of fifty or more Rusty Blackbirds (*Euphagus carolinus*) were feeding on the ground farther up the hill in the direction in which we were walking. Suddenly there was a great commotion among the Blackbirds and instantly one of them darted directly toward us, closely pursued by a Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter velox*). Mr. Duncan and I were side by side and with a space of about two feet between us. In an incredibly short time the Blackbird darted between us screaming at the top of his voice, while the Hawk, who evidently did not see us until within ten feet, frantically checked himself, noticeably fanning our faces, and when within two feet of us swerved to one side and made haste into the woods. When the