

1931, I came across a pair of nests in the lower limbs of a live oak which were very interesting. A California Bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus californicus*) and a California Jay (*Aphelocoma californica immanis*) had constructed nests within eight inches of each other, the former being a trifle above and to one side of the latter. Both nests had been constructed in a previous season, possibly two years ago, the heavy, evergreen foliage of the live oak having furnished sufficient protection to keep them in fairly good condition.

Jays have a reputation of robbing eggs and young from the nests of smaller birds, and Bushtits are no exception. It would have been interesting to know if the nests may have both been in use at the same time. Both birds breed at about the same season, for in this vicinity I have collected eggs of each on the same day and from trees not far apart.

Even though it seems hardly probable that the two species could have dwelt so close together at the same time, such close proximity of their nests was interesting.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, Calif.*

An Old Record for the Western Meadowlark from Ohio.—There is a specimen of a Meadowlark in the Dickey collection at Pasadena, California, which is quite evidently the western species (*Sturnella n. neglecta*). The skin has the following label and history: The label reads "*Sturnella m. magna* ♂ 1 Lakewood, Ohio 4-8-1880." The reverse has printed on it "Collection of Frederic H. Kennard, Collector S. Hall." The skin was obtained by the Dickey collection with the A. B. Howell collection in 1923. Mr. van Rossem of the California Institute of Technology has examined this specimen and pronounced it typical *neglecta*. It is with his permission that I submit the record.—J. STEVENSON, *Cleveland, Ohio.*

Observations on the Color of the Iris in the Boat-tailed Grackle (*Megaquiscalus major*).—In 'The Auk,' (vol. XLV, 506, October 1928) Major Allan Brooks makes certain statements in regard to the iris and habits of *Megaquiscalus major* and *M. m. macrourus*, concluding the note with the request that anyone having "wider knowledge of both birds in life than I possess, come forward with further evidence."

I had definite opinions in regard to one of his statements at the time but concluded to study the question critically and also to wait and see what others would have to say. An examination of every issue of 'The Auk' since that date has failed to reveal any observation and rather than let the request go unanswered and also to give the facts of the case at least locally, this note has been prepared. It is incomplete insofar that it embraces no observations on *M. m. macrourus* as I have never seen that bird in life. With *major* however, I claim intimate acquaintance; since school-boy days it has been as familiar to me as have "buzzards" and the abundance of the latter about Charleston has furnished material for many stories!

Though having seen and studied the Boat-tailed Grackle from Wilmington, N. C., to Titusville, Florida, the area about Charleston has been the