Vol. LII 1935

On June 29, still a third Hummingbird was discovered beginning the construction of a nest. The location was approximately a mile from the other station. The material used consisted primarily of down from sycamore leaves, and the entire nest, with the exception of bits of lichens that were added later, was built in one day. It is interesting to note that both birds, male and female, worked on this nest that first day. The male evidently was doing his share of the work. This seems to be an unusual circumstance, as ordinarily the male is supposed to scorn such menial duties. On July 2, the first and only egg was deposited in the nest and incubation was begun. Three days later the nest was broken up and the egg disappeared.

It would seem that the time consumed in nest building diminishes as the season progresses. Perhaps haste is necessary in order that the potential young may be completely developed by the time of fall migration. This need for haste may also have been the stimulant which caused the male in the last case to assist in nidification.—W. A. WELTER, *State Teachers College, Morehead, Kentucky*.

Kingbird (Tyrannus tyrannus) Attacks Airplane.—Several times daily during a part of the summer of 1919 a flier at Iowa City, Iowa, took passengers one at a time for short flights in his small biplane. His regular course circled over a hay field on the crest of a hill at Sunnycrest, the farm of my grandfather, John Williams. Since there were no obstructions the airman flew very low (60–100 ft.) over this hill. A Kingbird, which sat regularly on a wire fence on the lookout for insects and enemies, would fly up at the approach of the slow plane and make one or two savage dashes at it before it was out of his reach, uttering all the while his harsh, chattering battlecry. This was observed a number of times by my father and grandfather. It is common knowledge that a Kingbird will attack most boldly Crows, large Hawks, etc., but the courage and audacity of this bird in attacking a noisy and relatively huge airplane was certainly extraordinary. A case of this sort could scarcely have occurred except where a slow, low-flying plane was involved.—JOHN R. WILLIAMS, 801 W. Nevada St., Urbana, Ill.

Egg of Gray Kingbird Contains Two Embryos.—Examining a nest of Gray Kingbirds (*Tyrannus dominicensis*) I was surprised to note that one of the three eggs was nearly twice as large as the others. Accidentally breaking the large egg, I discovered that it contained two embryos, both alive, and equally developed, near hatching point.

The nest was found in a low mangrove, near New Smyrna, Volusia County, Florida, on May 24, 1931. Mr. O. E. Baynard was with me.—J. C. HOWELL, *Rollins College Museum*, *Winter Park*, *Florida*.

Feeding Habits of the Raven in Winter.—In the afternoon of March 7, 1933, a Northern Raven (*Corvus corax principalis*) was found feeding on refuse near a hen house in Memramcook, New Brunswick. When disturbed it flew to an adjacent field and about 3 P. M. returned, entered the hen house, and killed a sickly hen. A farm hand surprised it as it began to devour the bird, but it escaped. An hour later it again entered the house after standing outside for about ten minutes, and again began to feed. This time it was captured and killed. Its stomach contained only a piece of skin from the hen and a few feathers. The bird was a male and weighed 2 lbs. 14 oz. Roberts (Birds of Minnesota) quotes 2 lbs. 5 oz. to 2 lbs. 11 oz. as the weight of a Raven. This bird while not fat was not in an emaciated condition.

It may have been unnaturally bold or may have been forced by hunger to approach the vicinity of human dwellings; a heavy snow fall during the preceding week may have made food scarce.—REID MCMANUS, *Memramcook, New Brunswick, Canada.*