

North America': 499, 1912. The state of Michigan is not included in the range of the Greenland Wheatear given in the A. O. U. Check-List, fourth ed.: 202, 1931.

This bird was seen again on Oct. 8 and 9 within 20 rods east and west, and 20 rods north and south of the spot where it was first found. In its feeding habits, it closely resembled the Robin (*Turdus migratorius*), hopping about for short distances and looking for insects when it stopped. But, when on the ground, it was always seen on bare places where no grass was growing, and I did not see it try to get insects by picking into the ground as the Robin does. On Oct. 9, at about 4:30 P. M., I flushed it from a small spot of not over three square feet where dirt had been put a few days before. It flew up to a low branch of an apple tree where I could observe its plumage closely. At 2:00 P. M. the same day, I flushed it from the wheel-tracks of a driveway. It flew up about 12 feet to a martin house where it watched for insects in the manner of the Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis sialis*). It sighted a grasshopper or cricket in the grass not more than 15 feet from the martin house, dropped down and captured it, and ate it after killing it by beating it a few times as the Bluebird does. I did not see it alight on wires during any of these days nor did I hear it give a single note.

The weather was partly cloudy on Oct. 7 and the forenoon of the 9th; the rest of the time was chiefly clear. The temperature was 52° to 73° F. on the 7th; 40° to 73° on the 8th; 37° to 53° on the 9th.—OSCAR MCKINLEY BRYENS, R. F. D. No. 1, McMillan, Luce County, Michigan.

**Black-billed Cuckoo nesting in Oklahoma.**—The fact that Black-billed Cuckoos (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*) are considered rare transients in Oklahoma with a few old (1926–1927) breeding records for the northeast corner should make the following observations interesting to many readers. They pertain to a nesting pair found near Oklahoma City in the geographical center of the state, representing an extension of the breeding range 120 miles to the southwest.

One thousand yards north of Lake Overholser, the original city reservoir, is a growth of willow saplings along the east bank of the North Canadian River. While exploring the heart of this willow stand on June 11, 1944, I first discovered a cuckoo's nest three feet from the end of my nose. It was in a willow sapling precisely at eye level and contained a brooding bird. As soon as my eyes fell on the bird, it sprang up from the nest to a perch a dozen feet away, then disappeared. In the nest were four blue-green eggs. I left the vicinity for ten minutes and found a bird on the nest when I returned. As it flew off the nest it displayed a uniform coloration above, with narrow white tips on the rectrices. As it perched, not far from the nest, it emitted a song and then disappeared. About thirty-five minutes later, when I approached the nest for the third time, there was again an adult brooding. Cautiously circling the nest at a radius of about fifteen feet I observed the bird from all directions with 8 × 30-power binoculars. The glossy black bill and a red rim around the eye could clearly be seen.

The nest was about thirty feet from the water's edge and on June 13, when I returned to the area, there was ten inches of water covering the narrow trail that led to the nest, and I could not visit it. Recent showers had caused the river to overflow and the entire growth of willows was standing in flood water. On June 17 when I was able to visit the nest, it contained four pin-feather young with an adult bird brooding. The young were covered with black skin in which sparse gray pin feathers were growing. The remiges were still encased, and, as far as I could tell, the eyelids were still closed. On June 22, the occasion of my next visit, the nest was deserted, with only chipped egg shells remaining in the bottom.

During the period of observation, several pairs of Yellow-billed Cuckoos were noted in the locality and there were excellent opportunities to distinguish the two species by both appearance and song.—GERALD ROGERS, CAPT. A. C., *Oklahoma City, Oklahoma*.

**Blue-breasted Cyornis in the Malay Peninsula: A Correction.**—Riley (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 172: 448, 1938) has recorded from Nakhon Si Thammarat, Peninsular Thailand, an "immature male (marked female)" of *Cyornis hainana*, collected by Hugh M. Smith on March 13, 1929. He observes that this seems to be the first record for Peninsular Thailand and might have said also that it is the first record for any part of the Malaysian Subregion.

To the end that error be not compounded by endless repetition, it should be noted that the specimen in question, U. S. N. M. No. 313345, was collected, in fact, at Sakon Nakhon (lat. 17° 10' N., long. 104° E.), a locality well within the species's normal range.

The female recorded by Riley from Bok Pyin, Tenasserim (ca. lat. 11° N.) is correctly identified and represents the most southerly specimen yet known in this direction. On the eastern (Thai) side of the Peninsula, the species has not been found south of Ban Thung Luang (ca. 11° 55' N.). That Riley's undocumented reference to the bird's ranging as far south as Trang is a *lapsus calami* is indicated by his own claim that his record for "Nakhon Si Thammarat" is the first for Peninsular Thailand.—H. G. DEIGNAN, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*<sup>1</sup>

**Cowbird parasitizes Wood Thrush and Indigo Bunting.**—The eggs of the Cowbird (*Molothrus ater ater*) were found this spring (1943) in the nests of a Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) and an Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*) near Crawfordsville, Indiana. It both nests there were two Cowbird eggs and three eggs of the host. Both birds began to incubate the eggs, but, in both cases, the entire set of eggs was later found on the ground beneath the nest. The nests were about two miles apart and both were under observation. Both sets of eggs may have been destroyed by some predator but it is considered possible that the hosts might have destroyed the entire set of eggs in each case to get rid of the parasitic Cowbird eggs. If this was the case, it would be remarkable behavior. This observation is recorded to see if anyone has ever seen a bird destroy her own eggs to get rid of the eggs of another species.—HOWARD H. VOGEL, JR., *Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind.*

**Three records from western Massachusetts.**—As evidence of the eastward and northward trend of bird-life, and as indications of possible future breeding of various species, records of rare stragglers may be of interest. In Berkshire County, the westernmost part of Massachusetts, several birds added to the county list during the past year come under this category. This county, comprising just under a thousand square miles, extends fifty miles from the Vermont line to Connecticut, and is some twenty miles wide. In regard to the number of bird observers as compared to those in the eastern part of the state, the relationship is much the same as that of the southern bird students to those of the North Atlantic states. Here observers are few in number, and such birds may have been overlooked in past years.

The three additions to the county list were the Western Meadowlark, the Lark Bunting and a Tufted Titmouse. The first was found by Professor Sam A. Eliot, Jr., of Northampton and Stanley Clarke of Pittsfield, on July 8, 1944, at the Berkshire Hills Country Club, a favorite haunt of the Eastern Meadowlark. It sang

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