

her through my field glasses carefully gathering nesting material from the nest overhead and flying off in the same direction as before. I followed her course by traversing the carpet of ferns and golden brodiaea and located her moulding out her nest fifteen feet up in another old apple tree.

The nest from which she stole the material was that of a Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) from which the young had just recently departed. Blackbirds were still vociferously scolding passers-by because of young blackbirds in the vicinity.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, California*.

Fairy Bluebird—long-tailed macaque association on Mindanao.—In part 2 of his 'Birds of the Belgian Congo' (Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 75: 352, 1939) Dr. James P. Chapin states that the Long-tailed Hornbill (*Tropicranus albocristatus cassini*) is known by the natives to follow habitually bands of monkeys, an association from which the birds derive considerable benefit in that the monkeys, as they travel through the trees, drive insects from concealment into the open where they may be preyed upon by the waiting and perennially ravenous hornbills. Dr. Chapin, in his text, refers as well to other known examples of this habit, such as that of a Bornean drongo (*Dissemurus paradiseus*) which follows bands of macaques (reported by Ridley) and of another drongo (*Dicruropsis leucops*) which accompanies the Celebes Crested "Ape" (*Cynopithecus niger*) in the same manner (described by Raven).

In the mountain forests of the Zamboanga Peninsula, Mindanao, Philippine Islands, the author found that the Black-mantled Fairy Bluebird (*Irena cyanogastra melanochlamys*) accompanies troops of the long-tailed or crab-eating macaque (*Macaca irus*) with apparently the same end in view. During the months of August, September and October, 1945, this handsome bird was observed regularly and, although it was seldom to be seen associating with others of its kind, the species was almost invariably encountered singly and in the company of a band of macaques. This habit is so well known by the human inhabitants of the region that their name for the species means "sentinel of the monkeys," and they ascribe to it the duties of a guard. It is far more probable that it is the bird which benefits from the association rather than the monkeys, and in a fashion similar to that of the hornbill and the drongos.—KEN STOTT, JR., *San Diego Zoo, San Diego, California*.

Wild Turkey anting.—Sometime someone will compile a new bibliography of anting. Then reference to the following note by Dallas Lore Sharp ('Beyond the Pasture Bars,' p. 65, New York, 1914) should be welcome. "When her brood begins to lag and pine, the wild mother knows, and leading them to some old ant-hill, she gives them a sousing dust-bath. The vermin hate the odor of the ant-scented dust, and after a series of these baths disappear."—W. L. McATEE, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago, Illinois*.

Notes on the occurrence of birds in the Gulf of Mexico.—In view of the present discussion of the validity of the trans-gulf migration route as a regular flyway of North American birds, the following general observations may be of interest. I spent the period from March 15 to August 20, 1943, as Armed Guard Commander on the U. S. S. Castana, which plied between Norfolk, Virginia, and ports on the coasts of Texas and Florida. Naval directives prohibited the keeping of diaries during wartime on sea-going vessels, so that it was not possible to keep exact notes on when and where birds were observed in the Gulf of Mexico. However, even generalized notes may be of value to the discussion.

On every voyage through the Gulf during the period, a number of birds flew about