

indicates that it may range farther west, at least casually.—HENRY M. STEVENSON, *Department of Zoology, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.*

Courtship Display of the Rock Wren, *Salpinctes obsoletus obsoletus*.—On several occasions (the last on March 20, 1950) I have observed the courtship display and mating antics of Rock Wrens. In each case the birds were moving about on broad exposed rocks, at no time descending to the nearby level ground. Both birds were highly active but the male showed the greater "animation." The female, while crouching low to the rock surface, crept about in a strange zig-zag manner, reminding one of some mechanical toy. She fluffed her body feathers, fluttered her wings, and at the same time spread wide her dusky feet and tail. During this period she gave a series of faint squeaky notes. The male, with tail also widely spread and head up-raised on a plane above the horizontal, flew actively about her at a distance never greater than three feet, but generally very much nearer, often alighting and showing off, now in front, now behind her. He uttered no notes. After a few rounds at this the female flew to another rock and the curious performance was repeated. In each case, such antics went on for several minutes before copulation took place. After mating the female flew to a new location at some distance, the male erratically following. Courting was resumed after a lapse of 15 or 20 minutes, and then another copulation took place.—EDMUND C. JAEGER, *Riverside College, Riverside, California.*

Another Record of the Cedar Waxwing, *Bombicilla cedrorum*, Feeding on Dragonflies.—Kennedy, in his study of birds feeding on dragonflies, found that only three of a total of 225 stomachs of the Cedar Waxwing contained dragonflies (*Ecol. Monog.*, 20 (2): 130, 1950). The writer, accompanied by Ladd Heldenbrand and Donald McCarraher, observed at close range a Cedar Waxwing perched on a low limb at the edge of Wingfoot Lake near Suffield, Ohio, devour a large specimen of a dragonfly in the early evening of August 10, 1948. The bird struggled with the insect which nearly proved to be too large to swallow; after repeated gulping and manipulation with its bill for a minute or two, the waxwing was finally able to swallow it. The difficulty of feeding on such large prey, with other reasons given by Kennedy, probably explains why this bird seldom does so.—RALPH W. DEXTER, *Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.*

Some Observations on the Nesting and Feeding Habits of the Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris*.—During 1949 and 1950 some observations were made on the nesting and feeding habits of a pair of Starlings which nested under a window sill at Kentucky Wesleyan College, Winchester, Kentucky.

They were first observed feeding young on April 28, 1949, and all the birds had left the nest by June 21. In early April of 1950 a pair nested in the same location, and by April 11 six eggs had been laid. One of the eggs was removed but no more were laid. By April 24 all eggs had hatched, thus making an incubation period of about 13 days. More complete observations were made on the frequency of the feeding of the young at this time (Table 1). The time of the observations varied between 4:30 a. m. and 7:35 p. m., and both parents took part in the feeding, as they were often seen at the nest at the same time. The food consisted of earthworms, grub worms, insects, some vegetable matter and fruit. By May 11 the young were almost grown and were trying to get out of the nest, and by May 14 all had left the nest. Some of them were later seen on the campus following the parents which occasionally fed them.

On May 15, presumably the same pair was seen bringing straw and grass to the old nest, but only a very thin layer was added. By May 22 two eggs had been laid and

later three others, on consecutive days. Two of these were removed but no more were laid, so that five completed the clutch this time.

Because of absence from the campus at this time no further observations were made until June 11, when it was found that the eggs had hatched and the birds were quite large.

The major value of these observations on the Starling is to show the frequency of feeding of the young, which was at about six-minute intervals.

TABLE 1

Date	—Young—		Minutes watched	Number visits	Frequency feeding per hour	Weather data* Max. and min. temp. in de- grees F. Precipitation in inches
	Age in days	Number				
1949						
April 28			200	9	2.7	max. 67, min. 48, p. 0
May 1			140	29	10.4	max. 76, min. 59, p. 0.05
1950						
April 25	1	5	188	47	15.0	max. 66, min. 48, p. 0.05
April 26	2	5	38	12	18.9+	max. 66, min. 39, p. 0
April 27	3	5	54	9	10.0	max. 70, min. 46, p. 0
April 29	5	5	40	7	10.5+	max. 78, min. 47, p. 0.60
May 1	7	5	109	26	14.3	max. 61, min. 51, p. 0.02
May 2	8	5	67	8	7.2	max. 57, min. 50, p. 0.97
May 4	10	5	90	22	14.7	max. 86, min. 61, p. 0.06
May 6	12	5	159	44	16.6	max. 75, min. 50, p. 0.80
May 9	15	5	62	8	7.7	max. 79, min. 57, p. 0
May 11	17	5	197	48	12.2	max. 69, min. 53, p. 0.13
May 12	18	5	163	26	9.3	max. 59, min. 43, p. 0.46
June 15	quite large	3	75	10	8.0	sunshiny, temp. 88 at nest
June 16	"	3	104	15	8.7	
June 17	"	3	189	39	13.0+	
June 20	"	3	163	20	7.4	temp. 75 at nest
June 22	"	3	64	12	11.3	rain at nest
Total			2102	391		

The total time watched was 35.03 hours.

The average number of feedings per hour was 10.9.

* The temperature and humidity records are from Lexington Airport which is about 18 miles from Winchester.—MARY J. BROWN, *Kentucky Wesleyan College, Winchester, Kentucky.*