

in mixed plumage. Several birds which we saw at the Engineers' Tract on July 24 seemed to be in almost complete breeding plumage.

The Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*) we recorded only once. On the morning of July 11, Mrs. John Whitaker and I saw three adults on a mud-bar about a mile west of the Station. We could not get very close, but identified the birds wholly to our satisfaction. The pileum of each was solid black. Mrs. Nice (The Birds of Oklahoma, rev. ed., 1931: 98) calls the Caspian Tern a "rare transient." She mentions a specimen taken August 19, 1925, near Okarche, in Canadian County.

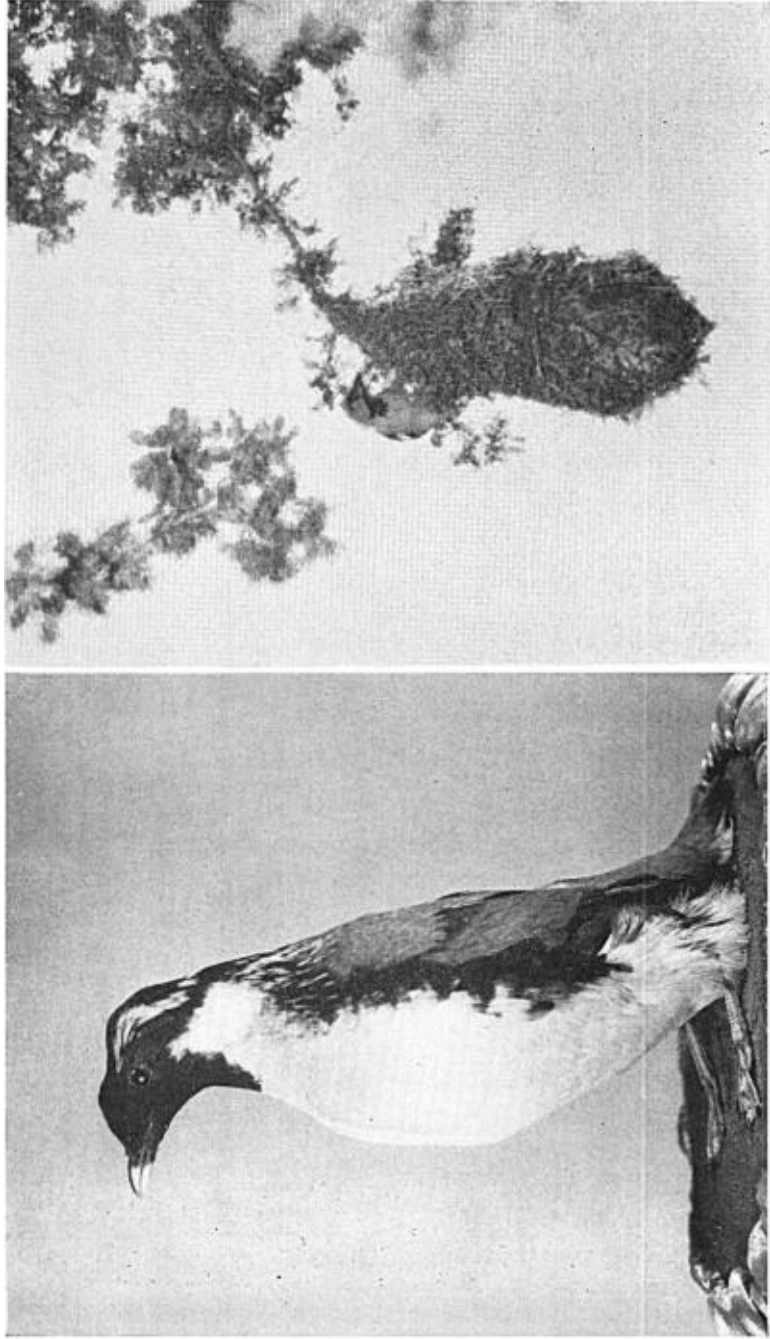
On the evening of July 24, as a storm from the west was blowing up, Carl D. Riggs, Director of the Station, collected an adult male Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) about half a mile west of the Station. It was by itself. It weighed 176.2 grams, being quite fat, and was in excellent plumage. There was a scattering of white in the black of the pileum. The bill was dull orange throughout the basal half, dusky on the distal half. The feet and legs were bright orange-red, the eyelids dark gray and the eyes dark brown. The testes were very slightly enlarged (about 2.5 by 6.5). The tail measured 189 mm., each of the outermost rectrices being broken off at the very tip.

On July 31, I collected a young male Forster's Tern about a mile west of the Station. It was sitting on a stub in the middle of a large shallow arm of the lake. It weighed 154.8 grams and was quite fat. The bill was brownish black, the mouth lining dull orange-flesh color, the eyelids dark gray, and the eyes dark brown. The crown was white largely, though the occiput was flecked with dark gray and a large black spot enclosed each eye. The tail was much shorter than that of the male taken July 24, measuring only 134 mm. (The outer rectrices were in perfect condition.) The primaries were molting, the two outermost in each wing being old, frayed, and rather sharply blackish-brown and white, all the rest being new and silvery gray. The testes were very small (about 1.5 by 4 mm.). In both the adult and young bird the outer web of the outer rectrix was wholly white, the inner web being dusky toward the tip.

To the best of my knowledge the Forster's Tern has not been taken in Oklahoma before, though there must be unpublished sight records. The two above-discussed specimens (respectively, GMS Nos. 11157 and 11169) are, for the time being, in my own collection.—GEORGE MIKSCHE SUTTON, *University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.*

Ancient Murrelet (*Synthliboramphus antiquus*) Taken in Erie County, Ohio.—On March 28, 1951, Mr. Herb Nielson, a commercial fisherman, and his associates were fishing with a drag seine near Bay Bridge on Sandusky Bay, Erie County, Ohio, when their attention was attracted to two rather small birds swimming near their seine. One of the birds suddenly swam over into the net and dived beneath the surface of the water. Upon examination of their net, they found the bird had become entangled in the mesh and drowned. Meanwhile, the other bird flew away and did not return. The specimen was sent to Mr. Kosak of Cleveland, Ohio, who mounted it. The incident was reported to the writer by Clifford Morrow, Erie County Game Protector. On May 8, 1951, the writer examined the mounted bird, which has since been deposited in the Ohio State Museum through the kindness of Mr. Neilson. The accompanying photograph of the specimen (plate 5) has been provided by Dr. Edward S. Thomas of that Museum.

The only previously known record for this species on Lake Erie appears to be that cited by Bent (Bull. U. S. Natl. Mus. 107: 141, 1919) from Canadian waters. The



(Left) Handley: Ancient Murrelet from Erie County, Ohio. (Ohio State Museum No. 8005.)

(Right) Grimes: Black-throated Oriole at nest in Southwestern Cameron County, Texas. From a $2\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ " ektachrome by C. T. Gill.

present specimen is therefore believed to be the first record of the Ancient Murrelet in Ohio.—DELMAR HANDLEY, *Federal Aid Project 61-R, Ohio Division of Wildlife, Castalia, Ohio.*

Black-throated Oriole (*Icterus gularis*) Nesting in Texas.—On June 5, 1951, the writer and his son Samuel, Jr. found two nests of *Icterus gularis* in southwestern Cameron County, Texas. Both nests were in a thickly wooded tract of two or three acres in size, in an area otherwise extensively planted to cotton; the location was one half-mile north of the Rio Grande, near the village of Santa Maria. We were informed by C. T. Gill and L. Irby Davis, both authorities on the birdlife of southern Texas, that this appears to be the first observed nesting of *I. gularis* in Texas.

Both of the nests were suspended from the terminal twigs of drooping branches of the Texas ebony tree (*Pithecolobium flexicaule*). They were about 100 feet apart and near the center of the thicket. The first nest found was of dried and yellowed grasses and may have been constructed the previous year. It was about 25 feet above the ground and hung over a small clearing in the thicket. The other was about 20 feet up and also hung over a little clearing. The second nest was under construction when found and was made, outwardly at least, of green grass. In the tree with the old oriole nest were two occupied nests of the White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) and one of the Derby Flycatcher (*Pitangus sulphuratus*). The dove nests contained eggs; the flycatcher's, young. The tree with the new nest of the oriole held also a nest of the Verdin (*Auriparus flaviceps*) and unidentified dove nests. Mr. Gill kept the new oriole nest under observation until the eggs hatched, and on July 7 made several photographs of the parent birds at the nest (see plate 5). He reports that, as well as he could determine, only one young was reared.—SAMUEL A. GRIMES, 4627 Peachtree Circle, Jacksonville, Florida.

Eastern Mourning Dove in the Dominican Republic—A Correction.—In 'The Auk' (vol. 58 (2): 260-261, 1941) I recorded an Eastern Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*) carrying Fish and Wildlife Service band No. A-441887 banded at Gulfport, Florida, on March 30, 1932, by Mrs. Daisie M. Morrison, and recovered at Santiago, Dominican Republic, about July 25, 1934. The original letter of advice from Senor Pedro Escobosa referred to the bird as "una gaviota," the Spanish name for gulls and terns. Since, however, Mrs. Morrison stated that "my record shows A-441887 a Mourning Dove" the identification of the bander was accepted as correct.

The recovery was reported also, at a later date, by Senor Francisco Hernandez, of Sanchez, Dominican Republic, who has been most helpful in other cases involving recovery of banded birds in that country. He insisted that the bird was actually a "gaviota" [gull] and upon further investigation it develops that Mrs. Morrison used bands No. A-441878 and A-441884 on Laughing Gulls (*Larus atricilla*) on April 3, 1932, and April 4, 1932, respectively. There is a very strong probability that the bird recovered at Santiago was actually the Laughing Gull that carried band A-441884 and that the error resulted from misreading a 4 for a 7. The status of the Eastern Mourning Dove as a bird of the Dominican Republic should be at least held in abeyance pending further confirmation. I am indebted to Mr. Allen J. Duvall of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and to Dr. Abelardo Moreno of the University of Havana for bringing this matter to my attention.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.

Geographical Variation in the Blue-throated Hummingbird (*Lampornis clemenciae*).—In 1918 Oberholser (Condor, 20: 181-182) described a northern race of the Blue-throated Hummingbird under the name *Cyanolaemus* [= *Lampornis*]