

The same male that nested in shaft Q2 during 1957 and 1958 returned to the same shaft for nesting in 1959, but obtained a new mate to replace his earlier one, which failed to return. The nest was begun on 5 June, 38 feet from the top of the shaft. One egg was laid 10 June. On 20 June, after an absence of nine days, the writer found the nest missing from the wall, and the parent birds were roosting side by side high on the south wall. Nine days later a new nest was made at about the same place as the old one. This was completed on 4 July. The first egg was not laid until five days later. A second egg was laid, and both presumably hatched. Observations were discontinued after 24 July, but the nest was still on the wall on 17 September and remained there through the winter.—RALPH W. DEXTER, *Department of Biology, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.*

**Heavy Nematode Infestation of White Pelican.**—On 10 October 1959 a dead White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) was recovered by the writer and Storrs Olson, Tallahassee, Florida, from the northeastern Gulf of Mexico, a mile offshore from Shell Point, Florida, on Apalachee Bay. There were no other pelicans in the vicinity, although 14 were seen the same day at St. Marks lighthouse, about five miles to the east. There were no signs of decomposition. Autopsy performed the next day showed that the skin of the pelican, an adult female, was intact, and that she had not been killed by gunshot. No fat accumulation was seen anywhere, under the skin or in the viscera, and the flight muscles appeared somewhat underdeveloped. The gut was totally empty, except for the presence in the stomach of well over 1,100 nematodes. As a result of this great infestation, the stomach was enlarged, distended, and markedly discolored; numerous small ulcers and damaged areas could be seen in the stomach wall, where some of the nematodes were still attached. The parasites were determined to be a species of *Contraecaecum*, probably *C. micropapillatus* Stossich, a common ascaroid found in both White and Brown pelicans (*P. occidentalis*) (York, W. W., and P. A. Maplestone, "The Nematode Parasites of Vertebrates," Blakeston, London, 536 pp., 1926).

The actual cause of death of the pelican was not determined, but it is entirely possible that the extremely heavy nematode infestation might have hastened death, in one or more ways: actual damage to the stomach, blockage of further passage of food, or by weakening the pelican enough so that feeding became difficult. Instances of helminth parasites actually causing the death of their hosts are sufficiently rare that it is felt that the present nematode infestation was only a contributing factor in the death of the pelican.—LARRY C. OGLESBY, *Department of Biological Sciences, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.*

**Ivory-billed Woodhewer Feeds on Mud Flat.**—On 27 December 1959, while observing shorebirds on a mud flat about three kilometers by road east of San Blas, Nayarit, México, I saw an Ivory-billed Woodhewer (*Xiphorhynchus flavigaster*) feeding on the same flat. The mangroves that cover much of the coastal plain in this area have been cut down and removed over several acres around the junction of the side road to Matanchen, so that stumps up to six inches high dot the flats. The nearest forest in which woodhewers might be expected to reside is on ridges over half a kilometer to the east.

The woodhewer was pecking at the mud, apparently feeding on the small insects that had attracted the many Audubon's Warblers (*Dendroica auduboni*) and Water Pipits (*Anthus spinoletta*) feeding near it. The nearest shorebirds were Semi-