

YOUNG, C. G. 1929. A contribution to the ornithology of the coastland of British Guiana. *Ibis*, Ser. 12, 5: 231-261.

—W. JOHN SMITH, *The Biological Laboratories, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.*

Another Nest of *Pitangus lictor*.—Ornithologists have attributed both domed and open nests to the Lesser Kiskadee (*Pitangus lictor*) because they confused it with several other strikingly similar neotropical flycatchers. *Pitangus sulphuratus*, the only one of these flycatchers that reaches the United States, always builds a domed nest. But Haverschmidt (*Auk*, 74: 240, 1957) collected *P. lictor* at an open nest near Paramaribo, Surinam, and thus confirmed the description of the nest by the Penards (*De Vogels van Guyana*, Vol. 2, 263, 1910). Recently Davis (*Auk*, 78: 276, 1961) has claimed that the Penards were mistaken and that the nest found by Haverschmidt was that of *Empidonomus varius*. As did a few other authors, Davis reported domed nests for *P. lictor*.

On 21 May 1961 I found an open nest of *P. lictor* at Buena Vista Point, just north across the Panama Canal from Barro Colorado Island. The thin cup of dry twigs and stems was 1.4 meters up in the twigs of a bush over an inlet of Gatun Lake, separated from second growth nearby by a marshy fringe. One of the three eggs disappeared by 28 May. The two young hatched between 4 and 11 June, and on 18 June were so well feathered that the black and white stripes were evident on their heads. On 25 June the pair greeted me, as always, with buzzy *dzeir* and *dreir*, *dear-ur* calls. Whenever they came near each other, whether in flight or perched, they exposed their bright crown patches and flashed the reddish edges of their primaries by fluttering uplifted wings as both chattered *wip-you* and *wip-wip-wip-you* at the same time. In bushes over the fringing marsh near the empty nest a young bird echoed the calls of its parents with weak *dree*, *uh* notes before it flew off very well. It resembled them in size and plumage, but its tail was only a third grown and the angles of its gape were still brightly colored.

Empidonomus varius does not reach the Canal Zone, and the other local medium-sized flycatchers that resemble *P. lictor* build domed nests (*Myiozetetes cayanensis*, *M. similis*) or nest in holes in trees (*Coryphotriccus parvus*). None are so confined to the edges of quiet inlets as is *P. lictor*, and none forage low over the surface of the water from overhanging branches, sedges, or stubs projecting from the water as does the Lesser Kiskadee.

Hence Haverschmidt and the Penards are quite correct in reporting that *P. lictor* builds an open nest, thus differing from the only other member of the genus. The domed nests reported by Davis are perhaps those of *P. sulphuratus*. As Haverschmidt points out (*Auk*, 78: 278, 1961), the eggs mentioned by Davis fall within the size range of eggs of *P. sulphuratus* rather than that of the eggs of the much smaller *P. lictor*.—EDWIN O. WILLIS, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, California.*

Possible Change in Status of Brewer's Blackbird in Florida.—Brewer's Blackbirds (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) were observed by the authors during March and early April 1961, on Payne's Prairie, 10 km (six miles) south of Gainesville, Florida. The earliest sighting was on 2 March, when the senior author observed two large flocks, each of 150-200 birds, and several smaller groups. Because the birds could not be approached closely, and since flocks of Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), Common Grackles (*Quiscalus quiscula*), Brown-headed Cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*), and Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) were present, his identification was