

seum (3 Mindanao, 7 Basilan), American Museum of Natural History (3 Mindanao, 4 Basilan), and Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (1 Mindanao). I am grateful to the curators of the last three institutions for permission to examine their specimens. The study was carried out with financial support from the Frank M. Chapman Memorial Fund in connection with a project on birds of Leyte.—KENNETH C. PARKES, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh 13, Pennsylvania*.

Starlings above the Arctic Circle in Alaska, 1962.—On 2 September 1962, at noon, with light conditions good even though there was complete overcast and a slight drizzle falling, I saw three Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) perched in the top of a 30-foot white spruce tree (*Picea glauca*). With the aid of 7×35 binoculars I observed these birds closely, noting their characteristic shape and autumn plumage.

I had been checking on migrating birds around Fort Yukon and when I saw these birds I was less than a mile southeast of the Fort Yukon Air Strip and Hospital Lake, and about a mile east of Fort Yukon School.

These Starlings were with a loose flock of Rusty Blackbirds (*Euphagus carolinus*) that were feeding in a semi-marshy area with willow-sedge-grass growth under a sparse stand of white spruce. This area has been burned repeatedly in the past and was semi-open cover of the taiga type.

The Starlings, appearing more excitable than the Rusty Blackbirds, flew from the area towards the Indian village of Fort Yukon.

Starlings were first reported in inland Alaska, at Fairbanks, 4 May 1960 (B. Kessel, *Condor*, 62: 482, 1960). My observations extend the known range of this species approximately 150 miles (210 km) north of Fairbanks and about 8 miles north of the Arctic Circle, in the vast, inland Yukon Valley of Alaska. I expect that Starlings will successfully establish breeding populations in this area some time in the near future, because there are abundant nest holes made by Yellow-shafted Flickers (*Colaptes auratus*) and other woodpeckers in aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), paper birch (*Betula papyrifera*), white spruce, and cottonwood (*Populus balsamifera*) trees. Also, there appears to be an abundance of summer food for adults and young.—CHARLES F. YOCOM, *Division of Natural Resources, Humboldt State College, Arcata, California*.

Feeding of Least Terns over land.—On 6 July 1962 we observed two immature Least Terns (*Sterna albifrons*) feeding over a newly plowed field in Kleberg County, Texas. This field had previously contained grain (*Sorghum vulgare*) which had been harvested. It was quite remarkable to observe these birds feeding in much the same way as Least Terns typically do over water, as we could find no previous record of such behavior. The birds would hover approximately 10 to 20 feet (3 to 6 meters) above the ground, dive toward the ground, pick up food with their bills and immediately circle around the field. They would then resume their hovering and continue feeding as previously described. They were never observed to alight on the ground. Feeding in the field at the same time were numerous Laughing Gulls (*Larus atricilla*) and Killdeers (*Charadrius vociferus*). An investigation of the newly plowed field revealed exposed insect larvae of the families Carabidae and Scarabaeidae.—BURRUSS McDANIEL, *Department of Biology, Texas College of Arts and Industries, Kingsville, Texas*, and SHIRLEY McDANIEL, *823 West Henrietta, Kingsville, Texas*.