

Northern breeding record for Reddish Egret.—A pair of Reddish Egrets (*Dichromanassa rufescens*) was found raising young in Pine Island Sound, more than 100 miles north of any previous Florida record in this century and 3 months later than its normal winter breeding time in Florida Bay. On 4 March 1970 on Hemp Key, opposite Fort Myers, Hal H. Harrison, Erard A. Matthiessen, and I sighted two Reddish Egrets, both in the dark phase. Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias*) and Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) were then nesting on the key, and Common Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*) and Brown Pelicans (*Pelecanus occidentalis*) were building nests.

We next visited the key with Andrew J. Meyerriecks on 13 March. Despite a careful search we saw no sign of the birds until we were leaving. Then from the boat we flushed one bird from a clump of red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*) in which about 8 feet over shallow water, we found a nest with one blue egg. The only other herons in the vicinity were Great Blues with larger nests and eggs. The Reddish Egrets, however, did not return. They were to prove extremely shy.

When we returned on 29 March the nest contained two eggs, warm from incubation. While one bird returned and perched near the nest, it was not seen incubating. We returned with a blind on 9 April. The nest then contained two hatchlings in grayish down. This time, from the blind, I saw one of the birds return, and on 16 April when Harrison photographed the young, Matthiessen also saw a bird return to the nest. Both times the birds left the nest without being seen and did not return until 20 minutes after the return of other birds now nesting all around them. These were mainly Snowy Egrets (*Leucophyox thula*), Louisiana Herons (*Hydranassa tricolor*), and Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax*). Both parents returned and circled overhead when Charles LeBuff banded the young 28 April.

Bent (Life histories of North American marsh birds, U. S. Natl. Mus., Bull. 135: 157, 1926) reports the Reddish Egret once bred abundantly in Tampa Bay, but says that they had virtually disappeared from Florida by 1903. Sprunt (Florida bird life, New York, Coward-McCann, Inc., 1954) says that the birds did vanish completely from the state between 1927 and 1938. The A.O.U. Check-list (Check-list of North American birds, fifth Ed., Baltimore, Amer. Ornithol. Union, 1957) gives the species' only Florida breeding ground as in the keys, near Tavernier. Palmer (Handbook of North American birds, vol. 1, New Haven, Connecticut, Yale Univ. Press, 1962) notes they breed in the spring in Texas, but in the winter in Florida when, he writes, they are extremely rare except in the breeding area. In this connection it might be noted that from one to four Reddish Egrets appeared at various times throughout their winter breeding season on Sanibel Island, across the sound from Hemp Key.—GRIFFING BANCROFT, *Captiva, Florida* 33924. Accepted 9 Jul. 70.

Traill's Flycatchers of the "fee-bee-o" songform wintering in Peru.

—On the basis of differences in song and habitat Stein (New York State Mus. Sci. Serv. Bull., 371: 1–63, 1958; Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc., 107: 21–50, 1963) proposed that the two songforms of the Traill's Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) represent sibling species, both included by the A.O.U. Check-list (Check-list of North American birds, fifth Ed., Baltimore, Amer. Ornithol. Union, 1957) under the subspecific name *E. t. traillii*. As an extension of this work I investigated the wintering distribution of each songform.

During December 1967 and January 1968 I located members of the "fitz-bew" songform in Panama and studied their behavior (Gorski, Auk, 86: 745, 1969). By playing recordings of vocalizations of both songforms taped on their Connecticut