

the slightest notice. I did not observe any jerking or bobbing of the head, and the impression was that the male pitched directly in front of the female and then turned around with the object of attracting her attention to his back and crest.

The day was sunny which may have induced the birds to display. I saw this display on four occasions and, once, had two birds in the same party displaying together. From this I would judge that displaying birds must have been common, as I was rowing myself in the boat and would disturb many before coming up to them.

The other instance occurred in this neighborhood on April 29 of this year. A party of four consisted of two full plumaged males, an immature male and a female; all three males were courting the one female. The display here was quite different from what had been seen at Tofino. The birds were all swimming together and one would depress its body (laying itself out on the water), shoot its head out vertically with the water, bobbing it back and forth in this way several times. While doing so it would slowly swim away from, but not actually in front of, the female. Another great difference was in the carriage of the crest; instead of being extended it was closely depressed. In fact there was no suggestion of crest left, only a narrow black line. The female showed no interest at any stage of the performance.

This shooting back and forth of the head was an action different from any I have seen in displaying ducks; the bird shot its head out to the full extent of the neck, bill carried out in a line, held it there, and then quickly drew it back and shot it out again without any pause. The manner of swimming flat on the surface reminded one of the action of the Surf Scoter when courting.

All three males took part in the display, but the immature bird did not appear so aggressive. The birds were about one hundred and fifty yards out from the shore and not at all frightened. They flew off, led by the female I thought, in a party.

At Tofino there appeared no jealousy among the males. I saw no suggestion of fighting; but on the other day, one of the old birds attempted to drive the other away by darting at it in the water.—THEED PEARSE, *Courtenay, B. C., Canada, May 5, 1928.*

Sixth Record of Harris Sparrow in California.—The recent records of the Harris Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) in California reported by Clabaugh (CONDOR, XXX, 1928, p. 163), and by Cozens (*ibid.*, p. 164), prompted us to offer a sixth record of this sparrow. This bird was a member of a large mixed flock of Golden-crown and Gambel sparrows and Juncos which wintered near our house on High Court, Berkeley, in 1924-25. For several weeks it was seen daily at the feeding tray which was not more than ten feet from our window. Its plumage agreed with that of "first-year" specimens in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.

Other noteworthy birds in our flock that year were at least three Slate-colored Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*) and a White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*), both previously familiar to us in the East. The White-throat remained until May 2 and was heard singing several times before it departed.—G. L. FOSTER and GRACE E. FOSTER, *Park Ridge, Illinois, May 7, 1928.*

Rufous Hummingbird in the Oklahoma Panhandle.—For a number of years I have been considerably interested in the study of hummingbirds; but until last summer (1927) I had records of only two species for Oklahoma. These were *Selasphorus platycercus* (Broad-tailed Hummingbird), a rare transient and summer resident in Cimarron County, and *Archilochus colubris* (Ruby-throated Hummingbird), a summer resident in eastern and central Oklahoma as far west as Comanche and Woods counties. Then on August 10, 1927, I discovered a lone individual of *Selasphorus rufus* (Rufous Hummingbird) here at Kenton, in Cimarron County.

This bird, which was a male, appeared to be extremely fond of the nectar in the flowers of a trumpet vine at one end of the screened-in porch that extends along one side of my house; and it was in this vine that I first saw him. I had been attracted to that side of the house shortly after sunrise that morning by a peculiar sound, somewhere between a buzz and a grunt, but had failed to locate the cause at that time. Shortly after lunch I again heard the same peculiar sound and, after gazing out through the open spaces in the leaf-covered vine for several minutes without moving, finally discovered the bird within three feet of my face, as he hung poised before a flower from which he was feeding.

The first day I watched the hummingbird for over half an hour. On the 11th he failed to return, but on the 12th he was back at the vine bright and early, and he returned again at noon, when I watched him closely for over an hour. On the 13th two males spent most of the day in and around the vine and were back again on the 14th and 15th; but they were not seen after that until August 29, when they or two other males were again at the vine. On September 1 the two again feasted on the nectar from the reddish-brown flowers of the vine and I had hopes of seeing them there again the next day; but during the night a rain and wind storm swept over the region from the north and evidently carried them on toward the south, as I never saw them afterward.

While the two individuals observed last summer were possibly not the first of the species to visit Oklahoma during their migrations, they were nevertheless the first individuals ever reported seen here, and for that reason they give us the first authentic record of the Rufous Hummingbird for Oklahoma.—RALPH C. TATE, *Kenton, Cimarron County, Oklahoma, April 28, 1928.*

Reddish Egret on Los Coronados Islands, Mexico.—On May 6, 1928, while on a trip to Los Coronados Islands, Baja California, Mexico, with the members attending the Third Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club at San Diego, we observed a Lower California Reddish Egret (*Dichromanassa rufescens dickeyi*) rise from a colony of nesting California Brown Pelicans and circle in full flight for some time about the east side of the island (Corpus Christi). The bird was first seen by Mr. W. H. Thorpe, of the British Ornithologists' Union, England, who, being rather unfamiliar with American birds, described it to us as a crane-like bird with a blue body and reddish neck. At first, from his description, we supposed it to be a Great Blue Heron, but we readily identified it as a Reddish Egret later, when we saw it "take off" from the pelican colony. When last seen it was flying toward the south island. The bird was also seen by Mr. Wright M. Pierce, as well as others of the party, who confirmed our identification. We are familiar with a mounted group of these birds in the Natural History Museum, San Diego, and feel that there is no possibility of error. As this is far north of the bird's regular range, we believe it to be worthy of record.—JACK C. VON BLOEKER, JR., and SAMUEL G. HARTER, *O'Rourke Zoological Institute, San Diego, California, May 7, 1928.*

Band-tailed Pigeon Nesting in Arizona in September.—On September 9, 1923, while at Soldier Camp in the Santa Catalina Mountains on a hiking trip, my attention was called to a pair of Band-tailed Pigeons (*Columba fasciata*) working in the western yellow pine over the ranger cabin. Observation with an 8-power prism binocular established the fact that they were engaged in the construction of a nest. It was difficult for me to believe that nest building was being done at so late a date. Some hours later the same day, on returning from the hike, these observations were again checked. The birds were under observation for a total of not less than an hour. I hoped to secure from the ranger or others further information as to whether young were actually reared, but learned nothing more. At the time, I believed this was an aberrant occurrence, but from a recent note (Grinnell, CONDOR, xxx, p. 126) I am lead to wonder whether it may not have been a normal nesting.—CHAS. T. VORHIES, *Tucson, Arizona, May 9, 1928.*

Do Willow Downy Woodpeckers Ever Drill in Tree-bark?—In course of conversation, recently, Mr. Charles W. Michael intimated that Grinnell and Storer, in their book, "Animal Life in the Yosemite", had been mistaken in ascribing certain drillings in the bark of apple trees to Willow Woodpeckers (*Dryobates pubescens turati*) rather than to Red-breasted Sapsuckers. To be specific, the mistake in question, if such it be, involves the text on pages 318-319, and text figure 41, of the book cited. The observations there recorded were made in Curry's apple orchard, on the floor of Yosemite Valley; and the great number of punctures observed in the trees there were ascribed not only to the Willow Woodpecker but in part also (see page 329) to the Red-breasted Sapsucker.

At my request, Mr. Michael has set down his own observations and final conclusions (in letters of April 28 and May 11, 1928), which read in part as follows: