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:

"Regarding the apple-tree situation in the Yosemite Valley, Mrs. Michael and I believe that you and Mr. Storer convicted the Willow Woodpecker on circumstantial evidence. So long ago as the winter of 1920-21, we became convinced that the bark drillings in the apple orchard were [all] the work of the Red-breasted Sapsucker. . . . For several years now the apple orchard has been under observation, and during this time many Red-breasted Sapsuckers have been seen drilling sap-pits, but never once have we seen Willow Woodpeckers doing work of this sort. Furthermore, sap-pits that we saw the sapsucker drill have since healed over and now appear precisely as do all the other old scars."

Accompanying the first of these letters is a carefully drawn-up account of the Michaels' observations on the behavior of the Red-breasted Sapsuckers in the Curry apple orchard. It is their belief that "all the vast amount of cutting might have been the work of one or two of these birds [sapsuckers] working only during the winter months." For thirteen consecutive days a single sapsucker was watched at work, and the process of drilling was observed at times within a distance of 6 feet. "In almost every case these fresh holes were cut through the bark into the sap-wood. In old workings of the sapsucker all of the holes bore evidence of having been cut through the bark to the sap-wood, and in the fresher holes there was no question in this regard, as in the bottoms of these pits dried sap could be seen."

On going back to the original field notebooks kept by Mr. Storer and myself, I find that, as recorded in our book, one or more Red-breasted Sapsuckers, and work ascribed to that species, were seen from time to time in Curry's apple orchard; but that also, on November 8, 1915, the two of us found and watched Willow Woodpeckers there. The facts are precisely as recorded, the chief of which are that two birds of the latter species were watched at certain fresh pits. One of these birds shot subsequently the same day, as per my notes showed "bits of inner apple-bark adhering to bristles around base of bill, showing [seemingly to me at the time] that he had excavated the pits." This bird, a male, is now number 25894, Mus. Vert. Zool.

As set forth in our published report, the pits with which the Downy Woodpecker appeared to be identified were not deep enough to scar the heart-wood, and hence were construed to be essentially different from the pits in the same orchard that were made undoubtedly by the Red-breasted Sapsucker. Our interpretation was that these shallow pits did not, therefore, injure the trees, at least to the extent that the deep ones regularly made by the sapsucker do.

Mr. Michael, in his letter of May 11, admits that the Willow Downy Woodpecker might well be able to drill through the bark of an apple tree; but nevertheless he is "inclined to believe" that the birds we "had under observation were merely looting the honey-pots of a Red-breasted Sapsucker and that they had themselves done no actual work in excavating the pits." Furthermore, "If Willow Woodpeckers occasionally do work similar to the work of the sapsucker it seems reasonable to suppose that we [the Michaels] would have discovered such work when no sapsuckers were present in the Valley. Months go by when no sapsuckers are present, but there is never a month when Willow Woodpeckers are not present. It is hard to believe that Willow Woodpeckers drill holes in the bark only when there is a Red-breasted Sapsucker present in the orchard! . . . I think," he says, "that the inferences made by Grinnell and Storer were absolutely wrong."

Now it is, indeed, quite possible that the authors of the Yosemite book thus inferred wrongly. The facts, of two Willow Downy Woodpeckers being observed at fresh shallow pits, and that one of them shot showed inner bark fibers adhering to the bristles around its bill, may have been just coincidence, as Mr. Michael says—a case where one species, which does not perforate bark, has taken casual advantage of a food source provided through the habits characteristic of another species. Several other totally different species of birds are already well known to profit through the bark-boring of sapsuckers. Here is a point requiring further close observation, best by persons coming fresh to this problem, without any preceding "slant" either way. Were or were not the inferences made by Grinnell and Storer likely to have been "absolutely wrong"? Has anyone observed a Downy Woodpecker, of any western race of this species, actually "drilling" tree-bark? Incidentally, this same sort of discussion, concerning the Eastern Downy Woodpecker, is carried on interestingly and at length in volume II (1927) of Forbush's *Birds of Massachusetts* (pp. 263-270). —J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, May 16, 1928.*