

In May, 1928, a pair of Western Robins (*Turdus migratorius propinquus*) built their nest on top of the bird house, the interior, as usual, being occupied by Tree Swallows. On June 1 the Robin's nest contained three fledglings about eight days old while the female Tree Swallow, a few inches below, was brooding newly hatched young. On the afternoon of this date my five-year-old son insisted that I go into the garden because the swallow was hurting the little robins and something should be done about it. On investigating this complaint the male swallow was found to be feeding the young robins. During five minutes he visited the nest three times, on each trip carrying food in his bill. At his approach the young birds stretched their heads up so far that the swallow, perched on the rim of the nest, barely could reach their open mouths.

The nest was carefully watched on this evening by an interested audience. From 6:30 to 7:00 P. M., the male swallow fed the robins six times; the female robin fed twice and the male robin—a stub-tailed bird easily recognized in any light—fed once, just at 7:00 P. M. Upon this visit he brooded for a half-minute, not very carefully, for the stretched necks of two nestlings could be seen against his breast.

The swallow was more assiduous than either of the robins, and on one occasion as he flew to the nest the female robin happened to be feeding, whereupon he circled about close in, making sudden swoops towards the nest and chattering continuously.

In approaching the nest the Tree Swallow usually flew directly to the horizontal perch of the bird house and from there to the nest rim. The female robin, on the other hand, was more circumspect, approaching in a roundabout way, with a preliminary survey perhaps from the top of a nearby lawn sprinkler or from the adjacent apple tree. From these points, after giving a low call note, she would fly straight for the nest and stand usually inside the cup.

From 7:00 to 7:20 the swallow fed three times, the female robin five times, and the male robin did not appear. Meanwhile the female swallow flew in and out of the box several times. The male swallow during all this period did not enter the nest box.

On June 2 observations were not continued, but the two swallows were seen mobbing the female robin. The latter crouched low on the limb of an apple tree while with snapping bills they swooped from either side uttering excited cries.

Subsequently the Robin and Tree Swallow menage was not kept under close observation, but at 8:00 A. M. on June 5 the male swallow again was feeding the robins. On the following day the half-grown robins had left the nest and for several days afterwards remained in the garden where they were fed by their parents only.

For robins to take advantage of these sheltered and convenient nesting sites is not unusual; for in the summer of 1928 another box, below the eaves of my garage, was dually occupied by the two species mentioned. So also was the site under the veranda eaves in 1917 and 1918. On this later occasion it was thought necessary to destroy the robins as the female had been caught in the act of destroying the eggs of a Western Wood Pewee whose nest was saddled on the branch of a plum tree a few yards distant.—J. A. MUNRO, *Okanagan Landing, British Columbia, December 3, 1928.*

Some Winter Birds at Tucson, Arizona.—Messrs. Miller and Swarth, homeward bound to California from the A. O. U. meeting at Charleston in November, 1928, stopped over at Tucson, Arizona, where, in the company of W. P. Taylor, they made sundry trips into the surrounding country. Swarth remained but one day (November 28), but Miller lingered until the evening of December 1. Taking the road toward San Xavier Mission (November 28), a stop was made near the outskirts of Tucson to investigate a likely-looking row of mesquites along a ditch. Some large, dark-colored birds flying in the distance attracted attention, first as, presumably, Turkey Buzzards, then doubtfully, as perhaps ravens. Discharge of a gun a few moments later startled others from the ground in the vicinity of a nearby slaughter-house, hidden by the trees, and they were then plainly seen to be Black Vultures (*Catharista urubu*). There were fifteen or twenty in sight at once, circling about together with a few Turkey Buzzards. The Black Vulture has been recorded just once before from Arizona, by W. W. Cooke, who states: "Several seen, May, 1890, by Dr. A. K. Fisher in the Tonto Basin" (Auk, xxxi, 1914, p. 403). It is a species that should be looked out for in future in southeastern California.

Below the mouth of Bear Cañon, which issues from the Santa Catalina Mountains some twelve or fifteen miles northeast of Tucson, a Gray Titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus griseus*) was collected (November 28), shot amid desert surroundings some distance from the mountains. Taylor sees them occasionally in this region in winter. There are just two previously published records of occurrence of this species in southern Arizona, neither of them very definite. Brewster makes the statement: "Mentioned in Mr. Stephens' notes as rare on the foothills of the Chiricahua Mountains, but no specimens are included in his collection" (Bull. Nuttall Orn. Club, VII, 1882, p. 79). Henshaw says, "in Southern Arizona the oaks are much frequented" (Zool. Exp. W. 100th Merid., 1875, p. 167), but he nowhere gives any further information as to just where he found the species. We know of no previous record of a specimen actually collected in southeastern Arizona, where, however, from Taylor's observations, it may be classed as an occasional winter visitant to some sections.

Besides the above mentioned, the following species were seen in the desert lowlands within twenty miles south and east of Tucson, on November 28. *Lophortyx gambelii*, *Zenaidura macroura marginella*, *Chaemepelia passerina pallescens*, *Cathartes aura septentrionalis*, *Accipiter cooperii*, *Buteo borealis calurus*, *Falco mexicanus*, *Falco sparverius phalaena*, *Geococcyx californianus*, *Centurus uropygialis*, *Colaptes chrysoides mearnsi*, *Sayornis sayus*, *Sayornis nigricans*, *Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*, *Chondestes grammacus strigatus*, *Zonotrichia gambelii*, *Amphispiza bilineata deserticola*, *Junco oreganus shufeldti*, *Pipilo fuscus mesoleucus*, *Cardinalis cardinalis superbus*, *Pyrrhuloxia sinuata sinuata*, *Calamospiza melanocorys*, *Lanius ludovicianus excubitorides*, *Dendroica auduboni auduboni*, *Anthus rubescens*, *Toxostoma curvirostre palmeri*, *Heleodytes brunneicapillus couesi*, *Salpinctes obsoletus*, *Troglodytes aedon parkmani*, *Thryomanes bewickii eremophilus*, *Auriparus flaviceps flaviceps*, *Regulus calendula calendula*, *Poliophtila caerulea amoemissima*, *Poliophtila melanura melanura*. In addition to the birds listed we saw ravens, meadowlarks, a single song sparrow, and a species of *Spizella*, which we could not identify exactly.

During the subsequent three days, Miller noted the following species along the Rillito: *Oxyechus vociferus*, *Bubo virginianus pallescens*, *Otus asio gilmani*, *Colaptes cafer collaris*, *Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis*, *Phainopepla nitens*, *Mimus polyglottos leucopterus*, *Toxostoma crissale*, *Sitta carolinensis nelsoni*, *Baeolophus wollweberi*, *Turdus migratorius propinquus*, *Sialia mexicana bairdi*, *Hylocichla guttata*, subsp.—LOYE MILLER, WALTER P. TAYLOR, and H. S. SWARTH, January 7, 1929.

California Purple Finch Nesting in Alhambra, Los Angeles County, California.—Early on the morning of May 5, 1928, the song of a male California Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus californicus*) aroused me from sleep; and, although only half dressed, I was outside in a few minutes to get a better glimpse of this new visitor to our home. To my surprise, there were two birds, both being in "plain clothes" plumage, the male and possibly the female in the first year of nesting activity. The two birds remained on our place for several days and seemed to be engaged in something more important than merely resting a few days before again taking flight.

May 10 was the day when actual work was begun on a nest in a pine tree directly in front of the entrance to the house. Construction progressed rapidly and on May 26 I made my first inspection. The nest, which was about thirty feet from the ground and neatly made of small grasses, rootlets, horse hair, etc., contained three eggs.

On the following morning a general disturbance was heard in the yard and I rushed out in time to see a pair of California Jays leaving the scene. At the base of the tree was a broken egg and I knew well whom to accuse for this act. For two or three days the Purple Finches remained, but they had apparently deserted their home, so on May 28 I climbed the tree again and found two eggs in a sadly torn nest. These were collected.

This is the only instance I know of, of any purple finches nesting in this vicinity, and I have seen no others here since during the breeding season.—J. STUART ROWLEY, Alhambra, California, January 15, 1929.

Evidence of a Barn Swallow Returning to the Same Nesting Site.—In the summer of 1925, a pair of Barn Swallows (*Hirundo erythrogaster*) selected as a nesting site one of the rafters supporting the roof of a woodshed at the rear of my house