

escaped. The birds were very still again, sitting on the limb, and I moved back to my former position under the tree.

It seemed that not a single movement of the weasel was missed by the birds. At one place where the crust on the snow was thin, the weasel managed to work under and in doing so broke some of the crust. Both birds saw this and flew down to the place where the snow moved and crumbled. The fight was on again.

The weasel rushed out and made a few jumps, one a very long one of about four feet, with the birds after him at once. However, by now the weasel had reached a pile of brush. The last glimpse I had of his coat it seemed bloodier than ever. Very likely he was familiar with the brush pile, which was effective in concealing him. For a while the two birds rested on a low willow bush right over the brush pile. Slowly they quieted down. No more did they let me get as close as they had before. They seemed to understand the weasel was safe and would not venture from the brush pile. They seemed to understand that to wait would be a waste of time. Finally, flying separately one a little behind the other, they began to retrace their way.

Sensing that they were a pair with a nest nearby, I tried to follow the birds. However, I soon realized the futility of such an undertaking, for they led me up hill and down and nearly back again to where we had been first. About this time I realized that they did not intend to have their nest with eggs or young disturbed again. They were certainly entitled to peace; for had they not put up a firm fight, possibly to protect their young from an animal which is known as one of the fiercest small fighters of the woods?—OTTO WM. GEIST, *University of Alaska, College, Alaska, March 21, 1936.*

Mockingbird in Eastern Montana.—On May 14, 1935, near Miles City, Montana, Mr. E. J. Woolfolk and the writer saw a mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*). The place was a low sage-brush plain, part of the old Fort Keogh Military Reservation, just west of Tongue River. The bird was on a barbed wire fence, about 100 feet from us. It had the same long tail with white outer feathers, the same broadish wings with white patches, the same stance and manner of flight, the same characteristics of song, only perhaps a little more subdued, that the writer has observed many times in southern California. However, this bird may have been slightly duller in color and a trifle smaller.

The bird was wary, but not especially timid. Although it would not permit us to come closer, it stayed in the vicinity, swooping occasionally with leisurely grace from wire to ground and back to fence post. But after that day it was not seen again.

This may be a record for Miles City, and perhaps Montana. The mockingbird is not catalogued in Saunders' distributional list of Montana birds, although it is recorded in the 1931 A. O. U. Checklist as occurring in southern Wyoming. P. A. Taverner, in his "Birds of Canada" (1934), says, "Lately stray individuals have been seen in southern Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and in southwestern British Columbia"; and he lists this as one of several species which periodically expand their ranges from the south, and contract them again.—LINCOLN ELLISON, *Miles City, Montana, April 21, 1936.*

Bird Notes from the Papago Indian Reservation, Southern Arizona.—Over a period of five and a half months, from September 1, 1934, to February 15, 1935, the writer was employed by the United States Indian Service in making a range reconnaissance of the Papago Indian Reservation in south-central Arizona. During this time, approximately 100 days were spent in the field, permitting the writer to make ornithological observations in every part of the Reservation, and thus to gain a cross-section of the fall and winter bird-life of the area.

The Papago Reservation has an area of approximately four million acres, and is almost entirely Lower Sonoran in flora and fauna. Practically all field work was done in this zone, which is characterized by such desert plants as creosote bush (*Larrea tridentata*), mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*), salt-bush (*Atriplex* spp.), giant cactus (*Carnegiea gigantea*), cholla cactus (*Opuntia fulgida*), palo verdes (*Parkinsonia microphylla* and *Cercidium torreyanum*), ironwood (*Olneya tesota*), and bur sage (*Franseria deltoidea*). The elevation ranges from 2000 to 4000 feet, the terrain consisting of small, rugged mountain ranges with intervening broad valleys.

The following 24 species of birds may be classed as the most common fall and winter birds of the Reservation, most of them being seen throughout the two seasons, and recorded on more than 40 days of the 100 spent in the field. Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura teter*), Western Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo borealis calurus*), Desert Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius phalaena*), Gambel Quail (*Lophortyx gambelii gambelii*), Western Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura marginella*), Red-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes cafer collaris*), Gila Woodpecker (*Centurus uropygialis uropygialis*), Cactus Woodpecker (*Dryobates scalaris cactophilus*), Say Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*), Horned Lark (*Otocoris alpestris* subsp.), White-necked Raven (*Corvus cryptoleucus*), Arizona Verdin (*Auriparus flaviceps*), Northern Cactus Wren (*Heleodytes brunneicapillus couesi*), Common Rock Wren (*Salpinctes obsoletus obsoletus*), Palmer Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre palmeri*), Gnatcatcher (*Poliopitila* sp.), Western Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Corthylio calendula cineraceus*), Phainopepla (*Phainopepla nitens*