

As late as August 18, one young bird was still in the nest, although the other young observed were awing, most of them capturing their own food. Since Mississippi Kites leave the Panhandle (Allan and Sime, *loc. cit.*) by the end of September, it seemed likely that the late nestling was doomed. At any rate, it was killed and eaten in the nest—presumably by one of the abundant raccoons—on the night of the 18th. From the remains, it was determined to have been a female. Other nests were found but not examined.

Cicadas appeared to play a prominent role at this season in the food habits of the kite. These insects were abundant. On several occasions I flushed cicadas from clumps of grass or shrubs. A nearby kite, with a "stoop" like that of a falcon, would seize the insect within 50 feet of me. The impact of foot with insect was distinctly audible at that distance. I tossed a number of cicadas and large grasshoppers into the air, but, despite attempts by several birds, only a single Kite succeeded in catching one of the insects.

Dragonflies and grasshoppers were seen to be captured. The most unusual food item observed, however, was a small bat brought to a treetop over my head. The bird and its prey were carefully observed with binoculars at 50 feet. Judging from its size and tawny coloration, I believe the bat may have been a pipistrelle. Bats, to my knowledge, have not been reported previously as food of the Mississippi Kite. This species, by contrast with the White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*), appears to take little mammalian prey.—PHILIP F. ALLAN, *Soil Conservation Service, Fort Worth, Texas, January 13, 1947.*

Violet-crowned Hummingbird in Arizona.—The late H. H. Kimball collected large numbers of hummingbirds in the Chiricahua Mountains near Paradise, Arizona. The majority of these he had identified correctly, but in the collection which I acquired was one he evidently recognized as especially rare, since he had made a small wooden coffin-like box, just fitting the bird, in which he had carefully placed the skin, and then had packed it among a number of Arizona Blue-throated and Rivoli hummingbirds collected at about the same time. This specimen, a male obtained on July 16, 1925, has an azure blue forehead and crown, back dusky with faint greenish gloss, tail with greenish cast, primaries dusky glossed with violet, an immaculately white chin, throat, breast, and belly, and white undertail coverts with dusky central portions. Dr. Alexander Wetmore identified the skin as *Amazilia violiceps ellioti*, the Northern Violet-crowned Hummingbird.

Kimball's specimen is an almost exact duplicate of one in my collection taken by Berry Campbell on July 11, 1935, about 95 miles south of Paradise, Arizona, at El Tigre Mine, Sonora, Mexico, labeled "male, juv." Van Rossem (*Occ. Papers, Mus. Zool., Louisiana State Univ., 21, 1945:306*) has given this location as "lat. 30° 37'; long. 109° 20'; alt. (probably over) 5,000 feet." The latter specimen was also identified by Dr. Wetmore as *Amazilia violiceps ellioti* and apparently represents the most northern record for Mexico.—MAX M. PEET, *Ann Arbor, Michigan, January 7, 1947.*

Bird Notes from Southeastern Arizona.—*Aix sponsa.* Wood Duck. We can find no published report of the occurrence of the Wood Duck in the state of Arizona. Hargrave (*Museum Notes, Museum of Northern Arizona, 9, 1936:30*) stated that "it is rumored to have been seen near Flagstaff," but he gave no details.

On November 20, 1941, at sunset, we saw a male Wood Duck in Binghamton Pond, six miles northeast of Tucson, Arizona. The light was rather poor as we watched the bird with 8x binoculars at a distance of about 200 feet. None of the bright colors could be distinguished but the pattern of light and dark areas was clearly seen. Two females swimming close to the male may also have been of this species, although positive identification in the increasing shadows was impossible.

On November 23 we visited the pond again. No ducks were seen, but we found a number of fresh, brightly-colored feathers scattered in a small area on the bank near the water. It appeared that some predator had torn some feathers off its prey at this spot before carrying it away. We collected the feathers and sent them recently to Dr. Alden H. Miller for identification. We are indebted to Dr. Miller who, in his letter of November 1, 1946, states that these feathers "are indeed those of a Wood Duck. Some of them compare very closely with the peculiarly marked flank feathers of this species. I do not believe there is anything else that could be confused with them. The feathers from other areas of the body likewise correspond."

Chlidonias nigra. Black Tern. We saw seven at Willcox Playa, Cochise County, August 13, 1946. Six were in summer plumage; the seventh was either an immature or an adult in winter plumage. There are only a few published records of the Black Tern for this area.

Tyto alba. Barn Owl. Swarth (*Pac. Coast Avif. No. 10, 1914:29*) regarded this owl as rare in southern Arizona. On May 2, 1934, Anders H. Anderson found a dead, dried bird at Binghamton Pond,

six miles northeast of Tucson. On April 14, 1946, he observed a Barn Owl roosting in the top of a tall cottonwood tree near the Santa Cruz River, eight miles south of Tucson.

Tyrannus melancholicus. West Mexican Kingbird. This species was first reported breeding near Tucson in 1938 and 1939 by Phillips (Auk, 57, 1940:117). We found this species still present along the Santa Cruz River near San Xavier Mission on August 2, 1946. Two adults and a fledgling were seen.

Sayornis nigricans. Black Phoebe. Swarth (*op. cit.*:41) listed no breeding records for the Lower Sonoran Zone. On May 21, 1939, two adults were seen making frequent trips with food into a well on a farm six miles south of Tucson. On May 30, 1946, two adults were seen feeding a full grown young bird along the Santa Cruz River near Sahuarita Butte.

Certhia familiaris. Brown Creeper. There seem to be no published winter records for southern Arizona. On January 6, 1946, we watched a creeper in a willow tree for several minutes in Lower Sabino Canyon, Santa Catalina Mountains. This is well within the Lower Sonoran Zone also.

Telmatoodytes palustris. Long-billed Marsh Wren. Swarth (*op. cit.*:75) lists no winter records for Arizona. We saw small numbers of this species at Binghamton Pond almost every winter from 1932 to 1945. Our earliest arrival was on September 30, 1945; latest departure was on April 22, 1933. The recent growth of cattails in the artificial lake in Lower Sabino Canyon sheltered several wrens during the winter of 1945-1946.

Spinus pinus. Pine Siskin. No Lower Sonoran winter records are listed by Swarth. Anders H. Anderson saw from one to thirty individuals on the following dates at Binghamton Pond: February 13, 1933, January 23, 1935, January 3 and 23, February 11, 1936, December 27, 1937, November 12, 1939. An early migrant (?) was seen July 30, 1946, in company with two Green-backed Goldfinches (*Spinus psaltria*) along Highway 83, about five miles from Sonoita, just north of the Santa Cruz County line. The surrounding area is chiefly Upper Sonoran grassland.

Pipilo maculatus. Spotted Towhee. We have the following Lower Sonoran Zone records: One was seen March 20, 1933, in the vicinity of old Fort Lowell, northeast of Tucson. On November 11, 1945, one was seen in hackberry brush in Lower Sabino Canyon. On December 30, 1945, one was seen in the brush beneath the cottonwoods along Sonoita Creek about a mile south of Patagonia, Santa Cruz County. On January 26, 1946, one was seen at Binghamton Pond.—ANDERS H. ANDERSON and ANNE ANDERSON, *Tucson, Arizona, November 7, 1946*.

Baikal Teal Taken in California.—A Baikal Teal (*Anas formosa*) was shot near Calipatria, Imperial County, California, on December 29, 1946, by Albert Washart of Roscoe, California. This bird was flying alone over a shallow, grassy fresh-water pond at the south end of the Salton Sea when shot. The skin has been donated to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology.

The Baikal Teal is found in eastern Siberia, wintering south to Japan and China. There are four previous records from North America; three of these are from Alaska (Bailey, Auk, 50, 1933:97) and one from Brentwood, Contra Costa County, California (Moffitt, Condor, 34, 1932:193; and Swarth, Condor, 34, 1932:259).—JOHN LAUGHLIN, *California Division of Fish and Game, Riverside, California, January 22, 1947*.