

bird and found that it was not dead but in a state of coma. I think that we presumed that it was sick and put it back where we had found it. I do not remember that we returned to see if it was still there."

In a letter dated July 11, 1949, he continues: "This incident must have taken place either during the Christmas or Easter holidays: for it occurred at a place where we went only during those holidays. This means that it happened either during the three weeks between December 20th and January 10th or in early April. If the bird was hibernating and not sick we must attribute the incident to the January date, since there would be plenty of insect life available in April."—EDMUND C. JAEGER, *Riverside College, Riverside, California, August 30, 1949.*

**A Hummingbird Thief.**—A trip into the foothills south of Denver, Colorado, on July 13, 1949, gave me an unexpected opportunity to witness a most unusual example of avian thievery. Robert J. Niedrach had invited me to accompany him on an expedition to take motion pictures of a Broad-tailed Hummingbird (*Selasphorus platycercus*) which he had discovered the preceding day in the process of building her nest. We had hardly arrived on location when we saw a hummingbird alight on the half-built nest, but instead of bringing plant down to add to the structure she helped herself to a generous amount of the material and made off with it. A little later the thief returned for more loot, but now the owner of the nest was present to resist the brigandage. However, the owner's efforts were of little avail, for the thief continued to return for more nest material with which she always departed in the same direction. The next day Niedrach found the nest of the thief about a quarter of a mile away.—FRANK C. CROSS, *Silver Spring, Maryland, September 26, 1949.*

**Further Notes on the Birds of Camp Barkeley, Texas.**—Vincent P. McLaughlin, Jr., has recently (*Auk*, 65, 1948:180-188) published his observations of the avifauna of Camp Barkeley, near Abilene, Taylor County, Texas. His excellent description of the "Broad Irrigation Project," which created a temporary marshy oasis in the midst of a desert of mesquite, needs no elaboration here. I was stationed at Camp Barkeley from July 23 to October 30, 1943. Despite the comparative brevity of my stay, I was fortunate enough to note a number of species not mentioned by McLaughlin. For much of this period my quarters were immediately adjacent to the Project, allowing me to make brief observations almost daily. Unfortunately, a substantial portion of my notes from this period were lost somewhere in the confusion of transferring from one army post to another. This is reflected in the list below by the lack of exact dates. However, I have retained enough material to be able to add substantially to McLaughlin's list.

In the following briefly annotated list, I have omitted those species for which my observations add nothing to those of McLaughlin. Species marked with an asterisk are those not reported in McLaughlin's paper.

\**Dichromanassa rufescens*. Reddish Egret. One immature seen on August 1. Since publishing this record (*Auk*, 65, 1948:308), an additional inland record of this species has come to my attention. There is a specimen in the American Museum of Natural History collected by E. A. Mearns at Camp Verde on the Verde River, Arizona, August 27, 1886. Thus mine is the fifth rather than the fourth inland record for the species.

*Plegadis mexicana*. White-faced Glossy Ibis. Two seen flying overhead, late in August.

\**Brantha canadensis*. Canada Goose. \**Anser albifrons*. White-fronted Goose. A flock of ten geese was observed flying over the camp and landing in one of the ponds of the Project just at sunset in mid-September. Nine of these individuals proved upon closer observation to be White-fronted Geese and one a Canada Goose.

*Anas discors*. Blue-winged Teal. At least during the fall migration of 1943, the proportion of this species among the waterfowl observed would warrant a higher rating than McLaughlin's "Uncommon migrant."

*Ictinia mississippiensis*. Mississippi Kite. One or two immature individuals of this species were seen in the summer months, favoring McLaughlin's conjecture that these birds breed in the mesquite near the ponds.

*Accipiter striatus*. Sharp-shinned Hawk. One September record.

\**Callipepla squamata*. Scaled Quail. According to the distribution map in "Principal Game Birds and Mammals of Texas" (Texas Game, Fish and Oyster Commission, 1945:60), Taylor County lies