

English Sparrow Feeding Young Eastern Kingbirds.—About 4:30 on the afternoon of June 16, 1951, I observed a female English Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) feeding three young Eastern Kingbirds (*Tyrannus tyrannus*). The young kingbirds were able to fly although only awkwardly. They were perched on the telephone lines at a busy intersection about three miles from downtown Shreveport, Louisiana.

When first observed, the sparrow was feeding one of the young birds. I watched the birds for approximately forty-five minutes from a distance of twenty to forty feet. When the sparrow appeared with food, the kingbirds converged on it begging lustily, wings fluttering. The hungry kingbirds overwhelmed the sparrow, pushing her off the wire when she brought food. The sparrow flew off into the grass and weeds along the roadside and on vacant lots near by. At intervals of five to ten minutes she returned with food. Because the kingbirds shifted positions, I was not able to determine whether the sparrow was feeding all three kingbirds or only one of them. In the course of the observation the sparrow brought food five or six times.

On the morning of June 18 the kingbirds were again seen on the wires at the same intersection. On June 21 one young kingbird appeared in the yard of my sister, about one hundred yards from where I had seen the three young birds. A female sparrow was feeding this kingbird. My sister put out bread and the kingbird came with the flock of sparrows and was fed by one female sparrow. Whether the kingbird was fed by more than one sparrow was not determined for certain.

Apparently the same young bird was observed on June 22 and 23 being fed by the sparrow. On the 25th the kingbird was still being fed, and on the 26th and 27th it was beginning to catch insects but would light with the sparrows and feed on the bread. The kingbird was not seen after the 27th, and the other two young birds were not seen again. Adult kingbirds were not seen anywhere in the vicinity at any time.—G. DALE HAMILTON, *Shreveport, Louisiana, April 23, 1952.*

Pomarine Jaeger and Bonaparte Gull in the Hawaiian Islands.—On the morning of January 10, 1952, while at sea thirty miles from Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Hawaii, I sighted two adult Pomarine Jaegers (*Stercorarius pomarinus*) following the wake of the ship. As we approached closer to land these two were joined by others of the same species. Individuals seemed to stay with the ship for only a few miles, thus making a total count difficult. Eleven birds were seen at one time, of which about one-third were in the adult plumage. The last bird remained with the ship until it was within two miles of the entrance buoy to Pearl Harbor. Conversation with Mr. George Munro of Honolulu indicates that jaegers had not previously been reported from the Hawaiian Islands.

On January 18, 1952, at a sand spit near Kuapa pond on Oahu, I was able to observe a Bonaparte Gull (*Larus philadelphia*) for about one-half hour. The bird was in adult winter plumage and when flushed from a short distance showed no excessive wear on the primaries, nor did it appear to be in an exhausted condition. This species had been recorded only once before from the Hawaiian Islands when a specimen was obtained on Kauai Island on March 14, 1891 (Munro, *Birds of Hawaii, 1944: 144*).—ROBERT C. FROELING, *San Francisco, California, April 12, 1952.*

A Case of Avian Tuberculosis in an Immature Avocet.—On March 5, 1951, while observing ducks and shore birds at Point Mugu, California, I found two dead Avocets (*Recurvirostra americana*) lying on the damp mud flats at the edge of the marsh. One was decomposed and had probably died a week before the second bird. The second bird was in fresh condition. Both birds were autopsied. The first showed no signs of pathology. The second Avocet showed a gross picture that resembled a typical infection of avian tuberculosis. There were numerous adhesions consisting of hard nodules about the liver, spleen, and intestinal tract. This bird was extremely emaciated. Bacteriological smears were made and examined by Mr. Wm. W. Blackman and Dr. James J. Short, Director of Internal Medicine, Soto Medical Laboratories in Los Angeles. Acid fast organisms resembling *Mycobacterium avium* predominated in the smears. The presence of these bacteria and the typical gross pathologic picture indicate that this Avocet succumbed to an advanced infection of avian tuberculosis.—WILLIAM R. LASKY, *Santa Monica, California, July 30, 1951.*

A Hooded Merganser from the Late Pleistocene of Oklahoma.—I have had the privilege of studying a number of small collections of more or less fragmentary fossil bird bones taken from

various localities by Dr. Claude W. Hibbard and his associates. While definite determinations must in many instances await further study, one identification which seems worth placing on record is that of a Hooded Merganser, *Lophodytes cucullatus* (Univ. Mich. Mus. Paleo. no. 24747), from late Pleistocene deposits in Oklahoma. This fossil was taken from deposits laid down in a fresh water basin, the Nye Sink, on the XI Ranch, 21 miles south of Meade, Kansas, in sec. 15, T.6 N., R. 25 E., Beaver County, Oklahoma. These are very late Pleistocene deposits, as described by Smith (Kans. Geol. Surv. Bull., 34, 1940:103-104), containing silt, clay, silty sand, and diatomaceous earth. The stratigraphy in the area is greatly complicated by the formation and filling of a series of sinks and basins, so that the exact determination of the age of beds is extremely difficult. Associated vertebrates include the mammal species *Mammuthus columbi* and *Synaptomys bunker* (Hibbard, Univ. Kans. Sci. Bull., 26, 1939:367-371; Contr. Univ. Mich. Mus. Paleo., 7, 1949:79), a small duck, and fish and amphibian remains, although these may belong to a slightly older fauna than does the bird material here discussed.

The merganser remains, a left tarsometatarsus, complete except for the outer trochlea and the greater part of the most medial calcaneal ridge, I found inseparable from those of the series of modern *Lophodytes cucullatus* available for comparison. The fossil is nearly white in color, brittle, but well preserved except for the defects noted. It measures 30.3 mm. in total length and 7.4 mm. in width of head. Four females in the Museum of Zoology of the University of Michigan range from 30.3 to 31.7 mm. in length, and four males from 31.7 to 34.1, indicating that the fossil probably represents a female. The width of the head of the fossil is slightly greater than would be expected, the female specimens examined ranging from 7.1 to 7.4 mm. The fossil is not, however, notably heavier in the shaft, and any difference seems probably attributable to individual variation.

The species has been previously recorded from the Pleistocene from the Itchtucknee River, Florida, and from Fossil Lake, Oregon (Wetmore, Smiths. Misc. Coll., 99, 1940:28).—WILLIAM A. LUNK, *Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, March 3, 1952.*

Bird Notes from Southern Colorado.—The following observations made in southern Colorado, mostly in the San Luis Valley at an average elevation of 7400 feet, represent occurrences of species that have been only rarely or never before reported in Colorado. Unless otherwise noted, all specimens mentioned are now in the collections of the Denver Museum of Natural History.

Casmerodius albus. American Egret. One was seen with three Snowy Egrets (*Egretta thula*) at the Russell Lakes, 10 miles south of Saguache, on April 19, 1950. B. D. Baker saw another American Egret three miles east of Monte Vista, Rio Grande County, on July 8, 1950.

Ixobrychus exilis. Least Bittern. A lone bird of this species was flushed in hardstem bulrush cover at the Russell Lakes, June 7, 1950. It was the only Least Bittern noted in the course of two years' intensive coverage of the area. The American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*), however, was a very common breeding species.

Falco peregrinus. Duck Hawk. Although rather rare in most parts of Colorado, the peregrine was a fairly common migrant in the San Luis and Upper Rio Grande valleys of Colorado. The writer observed individuals near South Fork on June 8, 1949, at the Russell Lakes on July 30 and August 19, 1950, and at the Rio Grande Reservoir, elevation 10,000 feet, on June 4, 1950. Dr. Paul C. Bibbee saw a Duck Hawk near Creede, Mineral County, on July 2, 1950. Bert D. Baker saw one near Mirage, Saguache County, on September 12, 1950, and another near Del Norte, Rio Grande County, on October 20, 1950. The writer collected an adult female near Mancos, Montezuma County, on July 23, 1950. When collected, the falcon was in a plowed field feeding on an adult male Redhead (*Aythya americana*). The Duck Hawk skin is now in the collections of the Colorado Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit of the Colorado Agricultural and Mechanical College.

Pelidna alpina. Red-backed Sandpiper. One female was collected from a flock of Western Sandpipers (*Ereunetes mauri*) five miles north of Center in Saguache County on May 5, 1950. Niedrach and Rockwell (The Birds of Denver and Mountain Parks, 1939:78) considered this species to be rare in Colorado.

Asio flammeus. Short-eared Owl. Although a common winter resident in Colorado, there are few records of this species nesting in the state (Sclater, A History of Colorado Birds, 1912:199). Niedrach and Rockwell (*op. cit.*: 96) listed it only as a winter resident in the Denver area. In June, 1950, the writer found two nests in low, rush (*Juncus ater*) meadows on the Charles Headlee Ranch approxi-