

the jay sat steadily and engaged in behavior typical of that of incubating passerines. Thus, on five occasions for intervals of from five to ten seconds, it rose slightly to probe into the cavity of the nest with its bill; once it seemed to be using its feet as though to adjust eggs. After each probing the jay settled down with precisely the slight lateral shaking and shifting characteristic of a bird placing its incubation patch against eggs. Twice when it settled it changed the direction in which it faced. There were three interludes of restlessness and of turning the head to survey the surroundings; these ranged in length from five seconds to one minute.

At 3:50, returning after 15 minutes' absence from the office, I could detect no change in the bird's position. Frequent observations during the next hour, until dusk, revealed the jay on the nest, sitting as before. At 10 p.m. it was still present.

On the following day, December 9 (cloudy; mean temperature 26°F.) I left the city, having first determined that the Blue Jay was off the nest. A great number of notes and times supplied by my colleagues disclose that it remained away until just before 1 p.m. and that it then sat, probably continuously, until dusk at about 4:30. It was not there at 10:30 that night, nor did I ever see it again.

The location of the nest tree in a busy area precluded any attempt to collect the bird, and it prevented my removing the nest until the students left the campus for vacation some ten days after the foregoing episodes. At that time there were no eggs, the presence of which I had thought barely possible; there were traces of fresh droppings in the cavity.

While I have not infrequently seen Blue Jays sitting motionlessly from early or mid-afternoon onward at winter roosting sites in evergreens, the exposed and busy location in this case as well as the occurrence of acts associated with incubation clearly differentiate the described behavior from mere roosting. I would suggest that what was seen was fundamentally roosting, into which elements of incubation behavior were introduced as the result of the visual and tactile stimuli of the nest. Perhaps collection and examination of the bird might have given some answer to the question as to why the nest had such stimulus value.—VAL NOLAN, JR., *Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, March 22, 1958.*

**Additional Notes on the Purple Martin in Utah.**—In a publication dealing with new and unusual records of Utah birds, Behle (*Wilson Bulletin*, 64, 1952:28) refers to the scarcity of information relative to the occurrence of the Purple Martin (*Progne subis subis*) in Utah. It seems pertinent, therefore, to refer again to some published notes on the subject, not mentioned by Behle, and to place on record some additional information from field observation over the past several years.

My own published records include the following: *Wilson Bulletin*, 47, 1935:162; *Great Basin Naturalist*, 2, 1941:3-4, mentioning nesting records for June 21 and July 3, 1937; and *Great Basin Naturalist*, 6, 1945:71-72. Bee and Hutchings (*Great Basin Nat.*, 3, 1942:76) also published a nesting record for June 25.

The writer first observed Purple Martins on Mt. Timpanogos, Utah County, June 22, 1931, when a male and female were collected at a place known as Mule Flat about two miles north of Aspen Grove Camp. These specimens are now in the Brigham Young University Collection. Following that time two or three pairs of martins were consistently seen, and later found nesting, in that same area at least up until the beginning of World War II. This is an area of aspen forests with open clearings and abundant water. The birds were frequently seen feeding over a small pond nearby.

During the war or shortly afterward a cabin, occupied in summer by sheep herders, was built in the nesting area. Many of the larger aspens suitable for nests of the Purple Martin have been cut for firewood, and the writer has observed no martins in the area since.

A pair of martins was also observed consistently from 1936 to 1941 in an area about three miles north of the above mentioned site at Big Tree Camp, Mt. Timpanogos. They apparently nested in the dead top of a large white fir, but a positive record of their nesting was not established. A single female was noted May 22, 1957, at Utah Lake west of Provo, Utah County, perched on a telephone wire with a flock of several species of swallows. Between June 5 and 7, 1957, a pair of Purple Martins was seen each morning feeding over a small reservoir about five miles west of Colton, Utah County. There were aspen groves in the area with large trees suitable for nesting sites but no nests were located. Several birds were also seen feeding over meadows adjacent to Beaver Creek about eight miles east of Kamas, Summit County, May 30, 1936.—C. LYNN HAYWARD, *Department of Zoology, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, February 27, 1958.*