

in one of the palms on May 8, 1958. The nest, approximately 35 feet from the ground, was located within hanging dead fronds and thus was only partly visible. Several Rock Doves (*Columba livia*) were nesting in the crown of the same tree. Only one adult Starling was seen. This bird, presumably a female, made repeated trips to and from the nest at approximately five-minute intervals. Food was brought to the young and excrement was removed each round trip. The young could be heard distinctly at each feeding although they were not visible from the ground.

On May 18, 1958, Tramontano discovered two more Starlings seemingly nesting in another palm four-tenths of a mile north of the above site on the same street. One spent considerable time within the fronds while the second sang from nearby electrical wires. On May 20, 1958, another visit was made to this tree by Rainey and Tramontano and again two adults were seen. One flew from the fronds with an object in its bill and dropped it to the ground from an adjacent tree. It proved to be one-half of a whitish-blue egg shell, the color of which compares precisely with eggs of Starlings as illustrated in Butler's *British Birds With Their Nests and Eggs* (vol. 2, pl. 6). Rock Doves and House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) were the only other birds nesting in these palms, and their eggs are readily distinguished from those of Starlings. On the same day, the young at the first nest were observed with the aid of binoculars. Only one young bird could be seen perched on the edge of the nest each time the adult brought food. Its size, approximating that of an adult, indicated that departure from the nest was imminent. In addition, on the same day, still another adult was seen flying into a nearby palm. However, it could not be determined whether there was a third nest in this tree. It was not possible to collect any of these Starlings owing to the residential area in which they were observed.

On May 4, 1958, two of us (Rainey and Van Hoose) obtained a female Starling 5.4 miles east of Holtville, Imperial County, California. This female in the company of another Starling, presumably a male, flew from a woodpecker hole situated 30 feet up in a large cottonwood tree. Repeated efforts to obtain the second bird failed. A study skin of this Starling (LBSC ♀ ad. 2068) was deposited in the Long Beach State College Vertebrate Collections. The female had numerous developing ova; the two largest measured 12 by 10 and 9 by 8 millimeters. Seemingly, egg-laying was imminent or had commenced. There was a well-developed brood patch. The collecting locality was in a small grove of five cottonwoods and six palms (*Washingtonia* sp.) surrounded by irrigated farmland. Other birds observed in the grove were: House Sparrows nesting in the palms, a pair of Bullock's Orioles (*Icterus bullockii*), Western Kingbirds (*Tyrannus verticalis*), a pair of Gila Woodpeckers (*Centurus uropygialis*), Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), and Brewer's Blackbirds (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*). Intensive collecting over a three-day period in eastern Imperial County did not reveal additional Starlings.—DENNIS G. RAINEY, S. G. VAN HOOSE, and JOHN TRAMONTANO, *Long Beach State College, Long Beach, California, June 20, 1958.*

**Four Recent Records from Southeastern New Mexico.**—An Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*) was seen at Bitter Lakes Refuge, near Roswell, New Mexico, from about May 16 to 20, 1958. It was observed by Robert Garrett, Bruce K. Harris, James H. Sikes, and the writer. The bird was distinguished from the Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) which is somewhat common here, by the reddish underparts and the white patch at the base of the tail, clearly observable when the bird was in flight. It was quite gentle and fed in shallow water near Dowitchers. Frequently when feeding the entire head was immersed. Apparently no previous record of its occurrence in New Mexico has been published.

The Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) has nested for two and probably three consecutive years at Diamond A ranch, 20 miles west of Roswell, Chaves County, New Mexico. On July 10, 1957, I saw a pair feeding young out of a nest in a hackberry tree. On June 12, 1958, I photographed a pair feeding young out of a nest in a cottonwood about 200 feet from the 1957 nest. Mr. Thompson, the ranch manager, believes the birds were there in the summer of 1956. I have observed the species here with some regularity in spring and fall in recent years. Mr. J. Stokley Ligon of Carlsbad, New Mexico, wrote that no actual nesting record for eastern New Mexico exists although the species is seen at times in the vicinity of Carlsbad during the nesting season. The nesting range has been established in New Mexico as far east as the Rio Grande Valley and north to Socorro. This observation seems to represent an eastward extension of approximately 150 miles.

The Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) was seen by three separate observers in Chaves County, New Mexico, on June 26 and 28, 1958. I saw one seven miles northeast of Roswell on June 26; J. J. Harman saw one, probably the same bird, near the same location on June 28; and Sam Tanner saw one, possibly the same bird again, on June 28 about 20 miles north. Scant records available to me indicate that these may be the only reliable observations in New Mexico although Bailey (Birds of New Mexico, 1928:155) mentions the existence of three specimens in the Woodhouse Collection which may have been secured in New Mexico. On July 12, 1958, I counted nine single birds of this species in a distance of about 50 miles on the highway between Shamrock, Texas, and Dill, Oklahoma. The locations referred to are separated by about 300 miles of almost treeless plains.

A new or hitherto unpublished record of the nesting of the Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) in New Mexico was secured at Bitter Lakes Refuge, near Roswell, in June, 1958. On June 19 I observed four clutches of eggs on a mud flat and on June 21 I secured pictures of one nest and one nesting bird. Mr. J. Stokley Ligon of Carlsbad, New Mexico, wrote that he had photographed a nesting Least Tern at Bitter Lakes in 1956. He stated further that these are the only known nesting records for New Mexico.—VESTER MONTGOMERY, *Roswell, New Mexico, August 2, 1958.*

**Red-naped Sapsucker in Monterey County, California.**—On May 19, 1958, we observed a male Red-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis*) at the Hastings Reservation, Monterey County, California. This locality is two and one-half miles east of Jamesburg and approximately 20 miles east of the Pacific Ocean at Point Sur. The bird was working on the trunks of small fruit trees near a house; it was observed for about seven minutes. On May 20 it was seen again in the same place, and on May 21 it was heard calling several times and seen twice, both times drilling on an elm tree near the house. The trunk of the elm bore fresh perforations, obviously the work of this individual.

The only race with which the identity of this bird might have been confused is typical *varius*, but this form has been recorded in California only once (Davis and Howell, Condor, 53, 1951:102). Further, the nape of the individual which we observed was definitely red. Although *nuchalis* has been recorded a few times in the coastal region of California, these prior records were made in the fall and winter. The occurrence of *nuchalis* at such a late date and so far from its nearest breeding grounds, the White Mountains of extreme central eastern California, is most unusual. Indeed, the latest seasonal record of sapsuckers of the "Red-breasted" type (presumably *S. v. daggetti*), which winter regularly at the Hastings Reservation, in the period from 1937 to 1947 at that locality, was made on April 16, 1940 (Linsdale, Condor, 49, 1947:238).—JOHN DAVIS and BETTY S. DAVIS, *University of California Hastings Reservation, Carmel Valley, California, May 26, 1958.*

**Mockingbird Observed on the Southern Tip of Tiburon Peninsula, Marin County, California.**—On June 1, 1958, while in my garden, I heard the song of a Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) but could not sight the bird. It was not until June 5 that I finally sighted and definitely identified it as a Mockingbird although its song was heard daily in the early morning and evening hours until June 15 when it apparently left the territory.

Observation was confined to a heavily wooded, five-acre, semi-cultivated garden. The bird seemed to restrict itself to a group of Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*). It frequently changed perches in a short flight from tree to tree and alighted on branches close to the trunk of the tree which made observation difficult at times. Although the bird was heard every day, it was sighted only occasionally during the two-week period.

The Mockingbird's repertoire consisted of imitating the notes of many of our local (Marin County) birds, both resident and migratory. This bird seemed to be "off base" because all records indicate that Mockingbirds in Marin County, and particularly on the Tiburon Peninsula, are rare. This view is further substantiated because this appeared to be a single individual and the observations were made during the normal breeding season of this species.—RALPH J. A. STERN, *San Francisco, California, July 2, 1958.*

**Occurrence of the Great Blue Heron in Arctic Alaska.**—On June 13, 1958, in Wainwright on the arctic Alaskan coast, I was halted by an old Eskimo, Joe Aveoganna, who asked me whether I would like to see an unusual "duck." He entered his hut and returned carrying a Great Blue Heron