

NESTING OF THE NARROW-BILLED TODY

On June 12, 1930, on the summit of Morne Tranchant approximately 5900 feet above sea level in southeastern Haiti, I flushed a Narrow-billed Tody (*Todus angustirostris*) from an open, level spot where a horse had been tethered. The lush grass had been cropped short and presented a lawn-like appearance. Although I did not suspect a nest, later in the day when I again flushed the tody from the same place my suspicions were aroused. I found the nest in a tiny burrow in the side of a horse's hoof-print. The burrow was almost straight and was about a foot in length, culminating in a small chamber where 2 eggs had been deposited, approximately 1 inch below the surface of the ground. As a result of the daily torrential rains of the season, the "nest" was saturated and the eggs almost half embedded in the soft mud. I collected the eggs, which were fresh and perhaps did not constitute a complete clutch. They measure 15.2 x 13 mm. and 16 x 13 mm. The only other nest of this tody that has been described was found by Abbott on May 9, 1919, below Hondo Abajo, Dominican Republic (see Wetmore and Swales, 1931, *U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull.* **155**: 288-289). This likewise held 2 eggs, one of which contained "a fair sized embryo." They measured 15.5 x 13.5 mm. and 15.7 x 13.5 mm.

It will be noted that eggs of *T. angustirostris* are definitely smaller than those of the better known *T. subulatus*. Eggs (23) of the latter species taken by Abbott in the Dominican Republic measure from 16.4 to 18.8 mm. in length (average 17.5 mm.), 13.8 to 15.1 mm. in width (average 14.4 mm.); eggs (14) collected by me on Gonave Island, Haiti, measure 15.9 to 18 mm. in length (average 16.8 mm.), 13.3 to 14.6 mm. in width (average 14 mm.). In view of the fact that specimens of *T. subulatus* from Gonave Island examined by Wetmore and Swales (*l.c.*, p. 286) were "very slightly larger" than those from Hispaniola, it is rather surprising to find that eggs of this tody from Gonave Island average smaller than those from the mainland.—JAMES BOND, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

NESTING BEHAVIOR OF NUTTALL'S POOR-WILL

On Mt. Timpanogos, Utah County, Utah, June 2, 1945, I observed an unusual nesting performance of Nuttall's Poor-will (*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*). A poor-will was flushed at a distance of about 6 feet, revealing a single egg on the bare ground. Closer examination showed, to my surprise, a second bird sitting close to the exposed egg. This bird made no effort to escape, but allowed me to handle it with little resistance. When this second bird was picked up the second egg of the nest was exposed. Even after being replaced on the nest the bird showed no inclination to escape, but opened its mouth wide, raised its wings, and trembled violently. I finally decided to save the bird as a specimen. It proved to be a male with well developed gonads and the crop filled with insects. Both eggs were completely fresh.

The nest site was on a south-facing hillside where small bare areas alternated with a dense chaparral, chiefly Gambel's oak. The "nest" was situated on a moderate slope, entirely exposed except for a small oak sapling 4 to 6 inches high that gave it a little shade. It consisted of a slight hollow about 4 inches wide in bare earth and without lining of any kind.—C. LYNN HAYWARD, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah.

A LARGE NEST OF THE ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW

On June 2, 1944, 2 Rough-winged Swallows (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*), presumably a pair, were observed to be carrying nesting material into the garage at the Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Oakland County, Michigan. This behavior continued sporadically for about 2 weeks until the door was closed for a period of several days. Attempts to find the nest were unsuccessful until June 22, when a large mass of material was found in the open on the top of a tool cabinet 7 feet above the floor and about the same distance below the garage

ceiling. The dimensions of this mass were 22 by 17 inches by 4 inches thick at the center. The dry weight was 435 grams.

Structural materials of the whole mass included the following:

Material	Minimum distance carried	Approximate percentage
Dry leaves of quaking aspen.....	100 feet	50
Dead twigs of quaking aspen.....	100 "	20
Bark strips of quaking aspen.....	100 "	10
Dry leaves of Red Oak.....	150 yards	1
Coarse weed stalks.....	100 "	5
Twigs of Tamarack.....	200 "	1
Dry Willow leaves.....	200 "	1
Dry leaves of Baytree.....	150 feet	1
Fine grasses.....	150 "	10
Seeds of Red Maple.....	200 "	
Strips of paper		
Bits of cellophane.....	50-100 feet	1
Wooden match stems		
Cigarette stubs		

		100

The actual nest, at one edge of the main mass, was outlined by fine grass stems and weed stalks, loosely constructed and without lining. It measured seven inches outer diameter, 2½ inches inner diameter and one inch inside depth. The one egg was abandoned due to the closing of the garage door which excluded the birds for several days. I find no reference in the literature to such a bulky nest of this species.—WALTER P. NICKELL, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

LATE BLUE JAY NESTING

On December 2, 1948 I observed 3 obviously young Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta cristata*), later joined by 2 others, being fed by an adult jay at our home on Park Hill in North Little Rock, Arkansas. This continued until December 17th, at which time they began using the feeders themselves. All 5 young were trapped and banded, but not the 2 adults. These young jays were retrapped continually through February 1949; one was retrapped 11 times in 2 weeks. I had never seen them before December 2nd, and know nothing about the nest location, or when they left it, but they were obviously quite young birds having the short tail, general awkwardness, smaller size, and the infantile look about the head, eyes, and beak.—TERRELL MARSHALL, Pyramid Building, Little Rock, Arkansas.