

area of ground nearby; during the next half hour the female also visited this spot twice with food, though she arrived by a much more devious route. The nest held five nearly-fledged young; it was on the ground, well concealed among weed one to two feet high, primarily ragweed (*Ambrosia psilostachya*), about 20 feet north of the fence, and in the firelane 35 feet in width paralleling the fence. The young showed clearly the distinct dark striping on the breast; one was collected (U. O. M. Z. no. 2161).

The presence in the fall of 1952 of an immature Cassin's Sparrow (mentioned above) provides evidence that this bird probably has nested in central Oklahoma for a minimum of four years. Considering the facts that in the three intervening years a considerable amount of time has been spent in the field in the vicinity of Norman by ornithologists from the University of Oklahoma and by local enthusiasts, and that prior to this year no Cassin's Sparrows have been encountered during the breeding season, it seems certain that this bird breeds here only in widely-scattered, small populations.—JOHN C. JOHNSON, JR., *Department of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma, July 29, 1955.*

Wilson's Petrel in southern Ontario.—Hurricane "Connie" passed south of Buffalo, New York, at approximately 6:00 p.m. on August 13, 1955, bringing gale-force winds and torrential rains to the eastern end of Lake Erie. The following morning Eric W. Bastin, George Meyers and Glenn Meyers, all of Hamilton, Ontario, searched the north shore of Lake Erie at likely points in the affected area, hoping to see unusual pelagic birds.

At Grabell Point, near Long Beach, Ontario, the body of a Wilson's Petrel (*Oceanites oceanicus oceanicus*) was picked up by Glenn Meyers. Lying just above high-water mark, it was water-soaked but otherwise in good condition, no decomposition being apparent. Identification was confirmed shortly afterwards by Dr. Harold Axtell of The Buffalo Museum of Science, who joined the party later. The petrel was given to The Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology, Toronto, Ontario. The only previous record for the species in Ontario occurred in the year 1897, at Gull Lake in the Muskoka District.—ERIC W. BASTIN, *43 Inglewood Drive, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, September 2, 1955.*

Prairie Warbler breeding in Texas.—Breeding of the Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) in east Texas has been suspected for some time, for some of these birds remain here several weeks after the main migration has ended. Bent (1953. *U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull.* 203:436) does not list this warbler as breeding in Texas. I saw and heard singing males of this species in the late spring and early summer in 1952, 1953 and 1954 in three localities in Smith County, Texas, but found only two abandoned nests and three immature birds during that time. These observations were witnessed by my wife and some of the members of the Tyler Audubon Society.

In 1955 my observations were begun 12 miles south of Tyler in an abandoned field of about 15 acres which contained second-growth sweet gum (*Liquidambar*), hickories (*Carya* sp.) and oaks (*Quercus* sp.). Nearby were shortleaf pines (*Pinus* sp.), various shrubs and a stand of grass 15 inches tall. On visiting this area on April 17, I discovered that some of the Prairie Warblers had already arrived, and during the following weeks I observed from four to six singing males in the vicinity of the old field at all times. On May 30, I observed a female gathering nesting material and flying into a 25-foot sweetgum, but I did not locate the almost-completed nest until

June 5. The nest was situated about 15 feet above the ground and was well hidden in the dense foliage close to the trunk of the tree. Both male and female were seen in the nesting tree on the latter date and other males were heard singing nearby. My observations were discontinued until June 22, at which time I carefully observed the nest but found no nesting or feeding activities being carried on. Both birds were seen near the nest and the male sang only occasionally. On June 26, there was no activity around the nest but adult Prairie Warblers were seen gathering insects in a field of partridge peas (*Cassia*) and flying into a large oak on the edge of the old field. This feeding was repeated several times, but a high wind and the thick foliage in the tree prevented my locating the young.

On July 4, I abandoned my watch at the nest and moved some 200 yards away. After hiding about 30 minutes, I saw a pair of Prairie Warblers gathering insects from the partridge peas and flying in different directions. Following the female to a small sweetgum, I saw her feed a fledgling in juvenile plumage, its tail about one-half inch long. I observed this pair, mostly the female, feed the young bird 12 times in about 35 minutes. In the meantime, the fledgling changed locations three times. Although active for a young bird, it could barely fly and ran on the ground part of the distance between bushes.

On July 10, I observed a pair of adults feeding two young within 50 feet of where I had seen them on July 4. This was probably the same family for the young were more mature, but were being fed by the adults most of the time. Also seen in the area at this time was a juvenile which was feeding itself and which showed some pale yellow on its underparts. The adults were now beginning to show signs of molting and only three songs were heard in a three-hour period, these being rather weak as compared to the songs heard earlier in the spring.

I wish to thank Mr. Horace H. Jeter for suggestions and encouragement which enabled me to locate the nest and young of the Prairie Warbler.—O. C. SHEFFIELD, 817 West Houston, Tyler, Texas, September 7, 1955.

Rose-throated Becard nesting in the Chiricahua Mountains, Arizona.—On July 7, 1954, the writers, during a hurried excursion in the Chiricahua National Monument, Arizona, were fortunate in discovering a female Rose-throated Becard (*Platyparis aglaiae*). The bird was first seen in a tall pine beside the road, about halfway between Monument headquarters and Massai Point, where it was following and scolding a female Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*), which we had frightened off a nearby nest. At first the becard was carrying food, but either ate or dropped it after a time. After watching the bird for more than half an hour, we went back to headquarters and immediately returned to the area with Mr. Robert Barrel, the park naturalist. Although the Cooper's Hawk was again flushed from its nest, the female becard was not found. Shortly after our return, however, we discovered two becard fledglings which had extremely short tails but otherwise were quite recognizable.

No attempt was made to find the nest, but the area appeared favorable. A creek bed runs beside the road on the opposite side from that on which the becards were observed; hence sycamores and other stream-bank trees are present. This habitat is reminiscent of that in which the nests described by Phillips (1949. *Condor*, 51:137-139) were located. Even though the nest was not found, the presence of the very young birds definitely establishes this breeding record, which is apparently the third reported nesting of this species in the United States.