

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 (*Platypsaris 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.

The Rose-throated Becard has been considered rare in the United States, but recently it has been observed several times. Until 1945, the only authentic record of this species for the United States was that of an adult male taken by Price (1888. *Auk*, 5: 425) in the Huachuca Mountains of Arizona. In 1945, Davis (*Auk*, 62:316-317) reported the presence of summer-resident becards in Cameron and Hidalgo counties, Texas, and in 1949, Phillips (*loc. cit.*) described six active nests, which he located during the summers of 1947 and 1948 in the Santa Cruz River drainage of central southern Arizona. The Arizona birds were identified by Phillips as *Platypsaris aglaiae richmondi*. The Texas birds, however, were assigned to *P. a. gravis* by Sutton (1949. *Auk*, 66:365-366), who collected three specimens in Hidalgo County. Those observed in the Chiricahuas may be presumed to be *richmondi*.—ROBERT H. GIBBS, JR., *Department of Conservation*, and SARAH PREBLE GIBBS, *Department of Zoology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York*, July 17, 1955.

Goshawk captures American Crow.—On July 23, 1955, the writer observed what appears to be an unusual instance of predation by an adult Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) on an American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). At their call of alarm, my attention was focused on a flock of approximately 10 crows roosting in the tops of some large hemlocks in a heavily-wooded area in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, near Shingleton. In a moment a Goshawk was noted swiftly diving upon the crows from a southwesterly azimuth, which, in midafternoon, was directly in line with the sun. Although the flock quickly dispersed, the goshawk singled out one bird and gave pursuit. For a few short moments this crow desperately attempted maximum evasive action; however, despite its valiant flight the hawk easily matched each maneuver and the crow was quickly driven to ground. At this point both victim and raptor were lost from view due to the presence of low but dense vegetation. The remaining flock meanwhile circled overhead, frenziedly cawing and repeatedly diving to within a few feet of the hawk, which was settled on the ground. However, after several minutes of such action the crows departed silently.

During the short period of time which elapsed before it reappeared to view, the Goshawk presumably was consuming a portion of the kill. When next seen it was laboring in flight with the crow clutched tightly to its body. An eight-foot woven wire fence with a two-foot overhang obstructed its path at the end of about 200 feet of flight; however, this was cleared easily at the last moment and the hawk continued into the heavy timber beyond. Careful search did not again reveal its presence in the immediate area.

Although Goshawks are not commonly abundant in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan during summer, Wood (1951. *Misc. Publ. Mus. Zool. Univ. Mich.*, no. 75:103-105) has recorded several recent instances of Goshawks nesting in this locality. Due to its large size, agility, and speed of flight, Goshawk predation on game animals, particularly the Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*), has been commonly noted. There is evidence suggesting that the Ruffed Grouse may serve as a staple food item wherever these species coexist. This instance of predation on crows may be related to the relative scarcity of both the Ruffed Grouse and Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Pedioecetes phasianellus*) at the present time due to their cyclic low populations. Perhaps when natural prey species are reduced in abundance Goshawks resort to feeding on normally less preferred prey which are commonly available in large numbers.—LOUIS J. VERME, *Michigan Department of Conservation, Shingleton, Michigan*, September 9, 1955.