

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in northern Minnesota.—On October 23, 1958, we collected a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*) near the northeast corner of the Forest Research Center, 1260 feet elevation, about three miles west of Cloquet, Carlton County, Minnesota. This bird, a male with double-layered skull, proved to be moderately fat, weighing 51.0 grams, and having testes 3 mm. long. The skin has been deposited at the Minnesota Museum of Natural History, Minneapolis (MMNH no. 14562). The occurrence of the bird in this area was coincident with the arrival of Snow Buntings (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) and Northern Shrikes (*Lanius excubitor*) from the north.

This record appears to constitute the fourth reported occurrence of this species in Minnesota, and the first occurrence verified by an extant specimen. Earlier records (Roberts, 1932. "Birds of Minnesota," 2:11) are based on a bird collected near New London in the central part of the state prior to 1912, but subsequently lost; a sight record of a bird, "about two miles north of the Iowa line—" south of Lakefield, June 5, 1930; and two sight records of a single bird (Kelly, 1958. *Flicker*, 30:57) on the south shore of the Lake of the Woods in extreme northern Minnesota on July 3 and 7, 1957.—GORDON W. GULLION AND BRUCE A. BROWN, *Forest Research Center, University of Minnesota, Cloquet, Minnesota, November 25, 1958. (Paper No. 992, Miscellaneous Journal Series, Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, St. Paul 1, Minnesota.)*

Interaction between a feral parakeet and House Sparrows.—An escaped Australian Shell Parakeet (probably *Melopsittacus undulatus*) was observed with a flock of approximately 30 House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) on the campus of Western Michigan University. I saw the pale-blue parakeet feeding with and flying with a flock of sparrows on four occasions in the month of November, 1958. In none of these instances was there any sign of interspecific strife between the parakeet and the sparrows; seemingly, the parakeet was well-integrated into the aggregation.

On two other occasions I saw the parakeet separate from, but near, a flock and observed its interaction with individual sparrows. On the first occasion a male sparrow detached itself from the flock of sparrows feeding on the ground, flew approximately 50 feet, and attacked the parakeet where it was perched alone in a low shrub next to a campus building. The parakeet flew and was chased some 20 yards by the sparrow before it returned to the flock. On the second occasion a female sparrow flew and ran at the parakeet when both parakeet and sparrows were feeding on the lawn; in this case the parakeet was searching and feeding alone some 20 feet from the closely-packed, feeding sparrows.

Seemingly, the sparrows tolerated the parakeet when it was a part of the aggregation, but treated it in a hostile manner when it was not a part of the flock.—THANE S. ROBINSON, *Department of Biology, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, December 23, 1958.*

Yellow-breasted Chat parasitized by tick.—While banding with Dr. Paul Fluck at Washington Crossing Park during the early part of May, 1958, we captured a Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) which had a tick, much enlarged with blood, attached to its neck. The tick was removed and identified by Dr. Fred Truxal, entomologist of the Los Angeles County Museum, as an *Ixodes muris* of the family Ixodidae. This tick has been recorded from several mammalian hosts, but not from birds. These recorded hosts are of the following genera: *Blarina*, *Peromyscus*, *Microtus*, *Ondatra*, *Rattus*, and *Zapus*.—DON BLEITZ, *Bleitz Wildlife Foundation, 1001 North McCadden Place, Los Angeles 38, California, July 28, 1958.*