

Behavior of Peruvian Martins on warm surface.—At 2 PM on 29 October 1961, more than 30 Peruvian Martins (*Progne modesta*) circled about the plaza in Chorrillos, a seaside municipality adjoining Lima, Perú. Singly, with on-the-wing dips (and sips?), they breasted gently welling water of a fountain bowl, flew toward the sunny side of a building on the plaza, and alighted on a stucco ledge about 6 inches wide that crossed the two-story wall 4 feet below the roof line.

Some 20-odd birds were on the ledge in various sunning attitudes (Hauser, 1957. *Wilson Bull.*, 69:78-90), as others came and went. Noisy wrangles broke out when new arrivals sought places. Birds did not appear wet, but an arriving bird would scratch (indirectly) and pick at itself momentarily, then suddenly spread out as flat as space permitted. Or, it might roll sideward, fluffing breast and belly toward the light, bill open and eye to the sun.

Individuals made three or more posture changes, including complete collapse (neck and bill tip, folded wings and tail, all, lax upon the ledge). Many rested with tail fanned and head either uplifted or resting on substratum. So narrow and crowded was the shelf that birds in full spread lay with most of one wing extended down over the edge and the other one stretched up at a right angle against the wall. Seldom did a bird find room to spread its wings along the ledge with tail out nearly full-length over space.

They posed with little movement. There were impressive moments when the whole posturing company lay stone still. Some were timed motionless 1½ minutes. The contour feathers were raised in all poses and breast and belly feathers invariably were close upon the warm surface. Contact of median skin seemed likely when, as viewed from below with binoculars, belly plumage was parted lengthwise over the edge of the ledge.

Birds perching on nearby wires preened but never postured. The flat rooftops were ignored. I watched the martins 20 minutes, making notes and sketches. Activity continued as I left. At 4 PM, I found 2 feet of the ledge in leaf shadows and the remainder shaded by a building. In that spot of partial sun seven martins preened without posturing. Otherwise, the shelf was vacant, and few birds remained in the area.

Whether surface temperature is more important than light in releasing such behavior, already known for Hirundinidae, seems a moot point (Whitaker, 1960. *Wilson Bull.*, 72: 403-404). In this case the air was cool; concrete surfaces in sun were very warm but not uncomfortably so. Lima, on a coastal plain cooled by the Humboldt Current, has annual temperature extremes of about 56-81 F. October and November initiate the sunny season, with temperatures of 57-72 F. At this latitude (12° S) the sun is strong.—LOVIE M. WHITAKER, 1204 West Brooks Street, Norman, Oklahoma, 18 January 1963.

Late spring record of the Common Redpoll in northern Illinois.—On 10 May 1956, a female Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea flammea*) was collected in a weed field about 1 mile south of Glenwood, Cook County, Illinois. The specimen is now in the Fish and Wildlife Service Collection, United States National Museum.

Although the Common Redpoll is a fairly regular winter visitor to northern Illinois, records of late spring occurrence are rare. While Ford (1956. "Birds of the Chicago Region," *Chicago Acad. of Sci.*, Spec. Publ. No. 12:85) lists 6 May as late for the species, Smith and Parmalee (1955. "A Distributional Check-list of Birds of Illinois," *Ill. State Museum*, Popular Sci. Series 4:54), and Clark and Nice (1950. "Wm. Dreuth's Study of Bird Migration in Lincoln Park, Chicago," *Chicago Acad. of Sci.*, Spec. Publ. No. 8:26) give 7 March and 3 March, respectively, as the last spring date recorded.—SEYMOUR H. LEVY, Route 9, Box 960, Tucson, Arizona, 20 January 1963.