FIG. 1. One whole and one partially consumed body of *Rattus* sp. in a growth of *Helaconia caribea* and *Alamanda cathartica.*

of a tree or shrub, similar to the custom of shrikes (*Lanius*). A thrasher may return to its cache for a second or even third morsel, for it by no means always consumes its prey at the first feeding. Some food may even be eaten over a lapse of two consecutive days.

The most interesting example of the predatory habits in this species was an occurrence on the campus of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, where the whole or partially consumed bodies of 13 rats were found in a small area covered with a growth of *Alamanda cathartica* and *Helaconia caribea.* The rats were all of the albino laboratory variety, which presumably had escaped from cages. Observations over a period of several hours on three consecutive days indicated that only one thrasher was involved in this predation.—FRANCIS J. ROLLE, *Museum of Biology, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico, 24 September 1964.*

Range extension of the Fish Crow in Missouri.—On 30 March 1964, at Big Oak Tree State Park, Mississippi County, in the boot-heel of Missouri, Dennis Marquis and writer observed and heard calling two Fish Crows (*Corvus ossifragus*). The writer is familiar with this species in Florida and the earliness of the season eliminated any confusion with young Common Crows (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*).

This seems to have been the first observation for Missouri, although the species has been reported by several members of the St. Louis Audubon Society during the last three summers along the Mississippi River south of St. Louis, Illinois (1962. *Bluebird,* 29:27).

That the Fish Crow has not been previously reported in Missouri seems surprising since it is found in every major drainage in Arkansas (1962. *Audubon Field Notes*, 16:338; 1957. AOU Check-list, p. 380) and in southwestern Tennessee (1957. AOU Check-list, p. 380). The abundance of this species at Memphis, Tennessee, is apparent from the 1962 Christmas Bird Count where 74 where recorded (1962. *Audubon Field Notes*, 16:195).

David H. Snyder, professor of biology at Austin Peay State College, Clarksville, Tennessee, reports in correspondence that he has observed the Fish Crow at Reelfoot Lake (nw. Tennessee) during March and May. In late March 1962, Wally George and the writer observed and heard Fish Crows at this location. As the crow flies, Reelfoot Lake would be no more than 14 miles from Big Oak Tree State Park, Missouri.

Richard Anderson of St. Louis, Missouri, informs me that he and James Haw observed several Fish Crows at Charlestown, Missouri, and Big Oak Tree State Park on 12 September 1964.

On 9 June 1965, at Big Oak Tree State Park, the writer was successful in collecting an adult male Fish Crow while it was calling. The bird was definitely in breeding condition (testes—16 × 12 mm) and several other family groups were observed in the same area. The measurements and glossy coloration were typical of the species and comparison with specimens at the University of Kansas confirmed identity. The specimen was preserved as a study skin, D.A.E. #902. Thanks are extended to Dr. Richard F. Johnston, University of Kansas, for allowing examination of specimens.—DAVID A. EASTERLA, *Department of Biology, Northwest Missouri State College, Maryville, Missouri, 8 October 1964.*

A new subspecies of *Icterus prosthemelas* from Panamá and Costa Rica.—Recently the authors have had the opportunity to compare series of *Icterus prosthemelas* from throughout the species' range. We find that the population of the Caribbean slope of Costa Rica and adjacent Panamá represents an undescribed subspecies based on the juvenal plumage. This population may be known as:

Icterus prosthemelas praecox new subspecies

Type. Juvenile male, No. 392316, American Museum of Natural History; taken at Almirante, Bocas del Toro Province, western Panamá, 22 August 1927, by R. R. Benson (original field no. 797).

Diagnosis. Juvenal plumage similar to that of *I. p. prosthemelas*, but with the black of the throat patch more extensive, extending onto the lower breast, and the interscapular region solid black, instead of yellow-green. No differences in any of the postjuvenal plumages, or in size.

Discussion. Five juveniles from Costa Rica (Estrella Valley 2, Guápiles 1, and Naranjo 1) and Panamá (the type) are uniform in the characters described above, and differ from 21 juveniles from north of Nicaragua. Two juveniles from Nicaragua (Río Escondido and Segovia River) and one from Honduras (La Ceiba) have some entirely black feathers in the interscapular region, and three of the four show a narrow extension of black onto the lower breast. They are thus somewhat intermediate. Juvenile *prosthemelas* from Guatemala and México have at most only narrow black tipping on the interscapular feathers in some individuals.

The description of a new subspecies based solely on the juvenal plumage may be questioned by some ornithologists. To these we would point out the large number of forms the world over that have been described only on the basis of the adult male definitive plumage (*Icterus fuertesi*), or adult female definitive plumage (*Agelaius*