Wilson Bull., 92(1), 1980, p. 121

Warblers feeding from ice.—On 5 May 1970, Philip D. Ould and McNicholl observed approximately 30 Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warblers (*Dendroica coronata*) hopping and walking on both fallen cattail (*Typha* sp.) stems and a thin sheet of ice near Hazel Creek in southern Manitoba. The birds were feeding on small black animals on the ice and in the water, these animals appearing to be identical to small dipterans which were flying in abundance over the water.

Goossen observed numerous migrant warblers, including Palm (Dendroica palmarum), Yellow-rumped (Myrtle), Yellow (D. petechia) and Blackburnian (D. fusca) feeding in scattered groups on the ice of Lake Manitoba at Delta Manitoba, during the exceptionally inclement spring of 1974 in which considerable mortality of passerines was recorded in southern Manitoba (Serie and Jones, Prairie Nat. 8:33–39, 1976). An examination of the ice on 22 May showed that Coleoptera, Chironomidae and other Diptera and Araneae were all present on the ice at this time.

Storms and cold spells are not infrequent in late spring on the Canadian prairies. During such periods insects die or become sluggish. Foraging by warblers on lethargic or dead insects on ice surfaces may simply constitute an opportunistic response to a readily obtained food supply in some cases, as at Hazel Creek, but would also have value in times of food shortage. This would be especially important during migration, when energy resources are likely low or depleted. Similar behavior by a Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*) has been reported (Kerr, Calgary Field Nat. 7:240, 1976), and may be of regular occurrence in insectivorous species migrating under adverse conditions.

We thank Jon C. Barlow, Spencer G. Sealy and 2 anonymous referees for comments on earlier drafts of this note, and Sealy for the suggestion that we collaborate. This constitutes Publication No. 23 of the University of Manitoba Field Station (Delta Marsh).—MARTIN K. MCNICHOLL, Beak Consultants Ltd., 3530 11 A St. N.E., Calgary, Alberta T2E 6M7 Canada, AND J. PAUL GOOSSEN, Dept. Zoology, Univ. Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3T 2N2 Canada. (Present address JPG: Regent College, 2130 Wesbrook Mall, Vancouver, British Columbia V6T 1N6 Canada.) Accepted 12 Dec. 1978.

Wilson Bull., 92(1), 1980, pp. 121-122

Rough-winged Swallow feeding on fly larvae.—On 22 May 1977, while driving along the Lake Huron shoreline near Alabaster, Iosco Co., Michigan, I observed a pair of Roughwinged Swallows (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) flying and occasionally landing on the beach near dead fish. Since this species seldom lands on the ground except to procure nesting material or enter a burrow, their actions seemed unusual. The birds were observed from 06:50–07:05 with 7 \times 50 binoculars, at approximately 15 m for 5 min and 9 m for 10 min.

Only 1 bird picked material up from the beach or from the dead fish. The other bird circled or landed within 1 m of the feeding bird. The pair flew along the beach for short distances from location to location, but occasionally flew as much as 100 m before returning to the original area. Often the foraging bird walked to several different fish before again taking flight and was then followed by the second bird. I examined the last fish at which the bird stopped and the surrounding area; fly larvae were found in and on both the sand and dead fish (apparently an alewife [*Alosa pseudoharengus*]).

Although members of the order Diptera are a major portion (33%) of the rough-wing's diet (Beal, Food Habits of the Swallows, A Family of Valuable Native Birds, USDA, Bull. 619,