

rancestii (Smith).—OUTRAM BANGS AND JAMES L. PETERS, *Museum Com p. Zool., Cambridge, Mass.*

The Barn Owl (*Tyto pratincola*) in Michigan.—My first observation of this species was about six miles east of Vicksburg, Michigan, on June 6, 1925, when two were seen about dusk. I was at this place every day until June 27, and saw one on thirteen different evenings, including the date when I first saw it. I was informed by a farmer that he had seen a pair of this species nearly every day about the barn and believed that they were nesting somewhere about the farm buildings, but I have not yet found out for sure if they did. So far as I could determine, no harm was done to poultry by the Owls.—OSCAR MCKINLEY BRYENS, 1312 Third St., St. Joseph County, Michigan.

Short-eared Owl Breeding in Illinois.—On May 10, 1925, in company with several members of the Chicago Ornithological Society I found a nest and six eggs of the Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) in the swamp at Beach, Lake Co., Illinois. Returning on the 16th, two young were found to be hatched and the remaining eggs on the point of hatching. As available publications show but one record of this species breeding in Illinois (Kennicott, Cat. Animals Observed in Cook Co., Ill.; Trans. Ill. State Agr. Soc., I, 1885), this may be the second.—PIERCE BRODROB, *Evanston, Illinois.*

The Name of the East African White-browed Coucal.—In 'Novitates Zoologicae,' xxix, 1922, p. 50, Dr. van Someren separated the East African *Centropus superciliosus* from the typical birds of Southern Arabia under the name *Centropus superciliosus intermedius*. Mr. Bangs has called my attention to the fact that the name *intermedius* was used by Hume in 1873 (Stray Feathers, i, p. 454) for a Coucal which he called at the time *Centrocoocyx intermedius*. This was later shown to be a race of *Centropus sinensis*,—the *Centropus sinensis intermedius* (Hume) of Tenasserim, Siam, and Burma. Consequently the name *intermedius* cannot be used for any other *Centropus* and van Someren's name is therefore preoccupied. In its place I propose the name *Centropus superciliosus furvus* nom. nov.—HERBERT FRIEDMANN, *Museum Comp. Zool., Cambridge, Mass.*

Arkansas Flycatcher Nesting at Melville, Sask.—In 1921 a pair of Arkansas Kingbirds made their nest on a telephone pole in the lane behind my house. I had never seen any of these birds in this part of Saskatchewan and I mentioned the matter to Mr. Mitchell, provincial naturalist, and he stated that he had not heard of any quite so far north although he had a record of them a very little farther south in another part of the province. These birds nested in the same place for four years, but in 1925 failed to appear. Ever since they arrived in 1921 I have kept a sharp lookout for Arkansas Kingbirds in this district and I have never been able to locate another pair in spite of the fact that I do considerable driving

through the country. It seems to me that this is rather a remarkable instance of migration. As there do not seem to be any others in this locality it would look as though the same two birds must have come back every year. As they did not come together it does not seem possible that one of the old birds could have picked up a new mate.

Several instances of Mallard Ducks nesting in trees have been reported to me. Mr. J. A. M. Patrick, K. C., of Yorkton, Saskatchewan, found one nest about two years ago and last year Harry Butcher of Punnichy, Saskatchewan, found two nests both being in Crows' nests in Poplar trees near water. I have also heard of other cases in this district.—LOUIS T. MCKIM, *Melville, Sask.*

Another Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*), in Maine.—I secured a young male Arkansas Kingbird from Woolwich, Maine, November 23, 1925.

This seems to be the fifth specimen to be recorded from this state. Previous records are as follows: A specimen taken in October 1864, was reported by Dr. Henry Bryant¹ as taken at "Plympton" Maine, but shown by Henry A. Purdie² to have been taken at Elliot; one was seen frequently at Halowell from November 12, 1920 to January 15, 1921³; one was seen at Cutt's Island, Kittery, Aug. 25, 1925⁴; and one was seen at Saco early in December, 1925.⁵

The bird here recorded seems to be the second record based upon a preserved specimen.—HERBERT M. W. HAVEN, *500 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.*

The European Starling in Mississippi and in Florida.—On November 24, 1925, I saw a flock of about fifty Starlings in the National Military Park at Vicksburg, Miss., and on January 26, 1926, a flock of four Starlings flew by me at Wakulla Beach, Florida. These instances show the rapid extension of range of this bird both west and south at the present time.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, *Ipswich, Mass.*

Is the Starling Migratory?—The Starling arrived at Columbia, S. C., last November, 1925, apparently with the intent to stay. I have knowledge of two earlier records for Columbia, both by Dr. J. H. Taylor of this city. On March 1, 1922, Dr. Taylor, reports having seen a flock of fifteen Starlings passing over the city at an altitude of thirty or forty feet, and flying in a northward direction. Again, on March 13, 1925, Dr. Taylor saw a flock of five or six Starlings flying overhead, he recognizing them by their peculiar flight.

On November 20, 1925, while in the vicinity of Camp Jackson, several

¹ 1865: Bryant, Proc. Boston Soc. N. H., X: 96.

² 1876: Purdie, Bull. Nuttall Orn. Club, 1: 73.

³ 1921: Miller, 'Auk,' XXXVIII: 603.

⁴ 1926: Townsend, 'Auk,' XLIII: 99.

⁵ 1926: Abbott, Maine Naturl. V