

species is of course in shades of dull olive. Undoubtedly this olive is composed of an intimate mixture of brownish and yellow pigments. In this case the brownish or dark element is entirely absent over large areas of the plumage leaving the yellow unaffected and showing in its purity. I have seen at least one other similar albino,—a *Leucosticte* in an old collection of mounted birds in Banff, Alberta. In this case while it was also the brownish element that was lacking it was a red element of the normal mixture that remained producing a beautifully pale rose tinted bird.—P. A. TAVERNER, *National Museum of Canada, Ottawa.*

**Magpie Breeding in Captivity.**—In the National Zoological Park, the American Magpies (*Pica pica hudsonia*) are rearing young. This is probably the first breeding record of the bird in Washington, D. C., the activity taking place in captivity. The Magpie is a characteristic bird of the West and Northwest and occasionally stragglers are found as far east as Illinois. The bird student of the east does not have the opportunity to observe the Magpie, hence the interest in this much scolded bird of the west.

Both birds took part in the construction of the nest, and as completed it stands eight feet from the ground, being about one foot wide and deep. The interior is the shape of a cup, cemented with mud, and is about six inches wide and deep. The material is sticks, put into the cage for building purpose. The top of the nest is open, and not arched over as is the nest in nature. However, the size of the nest has no significance for nesting material was limited.

Six eggs were laid, and in seventeen days, four of them hatched into small, naked, blind, brown youngsters. The remaining two proved infertile. The female appeared to do all the incubating, and remains constantly in the nest with her family. The male stays nearby and brings food to them.

When the nest is approached both birds scold in the typical Jay manner.—MALCOLM DAVIS, *Nat. Zoological Park, Washington, D. C.*

**The American Magpie (*Pica pica hudsonia*) at Point Lookout, Maryland.**—On the morning of June 28, 1931, about a mile from the point, while driving along the main road, the writers saw a large black and white bird in company with some Crows, being pursued by a Kingbird. Upon closer inspection the bird proved to be a Magpie, the long, narrow black and white wings and the very long, thin tail making the identification quite simple. The presence of the Crows was a good check on its length.

This bird was not seen or heard of again. Whether or not it was a bona fide straggler or merely an escape is a matter of conjecture. Court has had experience with this species in the middle west and the caged birds in the local zoo were closely examined, so there seems no room for doubting the identification.—W. HOWARD BALL AND EDWARD J. COURT, *Washington, D. C.*