

of flight speed. The large size of the Wild Turkey often deceives the observer who attempts to estimate the flight speed. Actually the Wild Turkey may be compared to the large airplane which must have considerable wing area and fly fast to provide the necessary lift for the heavy body.—FRED A. GLOVER, *West Virginia Conservation Commission, Elkins, West Virginia.*

**Interrelations of House Wren and Bewick's Wren.**—The impression has prevailed among ornithologists that House Wrens (*Troglodytes aëdon*) and Bewick's Wrens (*Thryomanes bewickii*) do not ordinarily occupy successfully the same territories. Many observations have been to the effect that when House Wrens enter a territory as invaders the Bewick's Wrens become scarce, or move out entirely.

These observations are certainly correct during the early years following House Wren invasion of Bewick Wren territory. There is every evidence of the incompatibility of the two species, and the latter species is almost invariably the sufferer. In recent years, however, I have seen in a number of situations Bewick's Wrens re-establishing themselves in territory from which they had formerly disappeared. The result has been that both species now breed in the same areas, with seeming compatibility.

At French Creek, Upshur County, West Virginia, Bewick's Wrens were, for many years, abundant, whereas House Wrens were virtually unknown in the region until the early years of the present century. With the invasion of the latter species, however, Bewick's Wrens moved out, virtually disappearing for several years. During recent seasons Bewick's Wrens have reappeared, occupying many of their former nesting niches.

In the valley of the Ohio River (in West Virginia, at least) House Wrens for many years seemed to dominate on the flood plain, with Bewick's Wrens appearing on the escarpments back from the river. As late as ten years ago, Haller, in a study of the birds of four river-valley counties, found that this situation obtained. Within the last decade, however, Bewick's Wrens have moved down on the flood plain, and are now rather common co-occupants with the House Wrens. Burt L. Monroe, of Anchorage, Kentucky, tells me that the wren populations of Kentucky's Ohio Valley counties have had a similar history.

Near my home in Morgantown, West Virginia, a single pair of Bewick's Wrens has occupied an old shed each nesting season for the last six years. There are no other resident Bewick's Wrens near by. Surrounding this territory are dozens of nesting pairs of House Wrens. Despite the abundance of the latter birds, the Bewick's Wrens completely dominate the territory around their chosen home, and I have not witnessed any conflicts between the two species.

Since the clearing of the Appalachian forests, there have been many invasions by bird species formerly absent from the region. These invasions, in most cases at least, have followed the same pattern. First the invader appears as a pioneer; then it becomes locally common and often dominant in certain areas, frequently to the seeming detriment of some other species; and finally it settles down as an accepted member of the community, often considerably reduced in numbers. In this last stage it tolerates, and is tolerated by, other avian neighbors. I believe that Bewick's Wrens as old residents of the West Virginia hill country and House Wrens as recent invaders are now engaged in working out some such *modus vivendi*.—MAURICE BROOKS, *West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia.*

**Bank Swallow and Belted Kingfisher nest in man-made niche.**—On June 9, 1946, James L. Edwards, Richard S. Thorsell, and the writer discovered a nesting