

The colony was apparently a new one. No evidence of previous nesting was found. Because of its large size it would seem that the use of this area represents a change in nesting sites rather than a new concentration of breeding birds. No other colony of this size has been recorded from any of the several marshes in the Lahontan Valley, so its origin is unknown. Possibly the birds moved from another location within the Stillwater area. Extensive stands of hardstem bulrush occur in the northwestern part of the marsh offering possible locations. Parts of this bulrush growth burned during the early spring prior to the start of nesting, and the fire removed the mat of dead material essential to nest construction.

Besides the large colony there were other nesting areas of much smaller size. Two ibis colonies were found: one, containing 25 nests, was in a patch of hardstem bulrush within the zone of alkali bulrush near the lower end of the marsh; the second, with 11 nests, also in hardstem bulrush, was on the Canvasback Gun Club, a privately owned tract comprising the southwestern corner of the marsh. This latter colony was unique in that the nests were constructed in an area of dense growth away from open water.

Immediately to the south of the Stillwater Marsh, on the Freeman Ranch, Great Blue Herons nested in a strip of large cottonwood trees (*Populus fremontii* Wats.) growing beside an irrigation ditch. In 1949, these trees contained 85 nests. Originally we thought that some of these birds might have deserted to join the nesting colony in the big marsh, but such was not the case. The number of nests in the cottonwoods increased to 106 in 1950. Further evidence concerning the type of food eaten was obtained from one of these blue heron nests. This nest held 10 carp measuring from 10 to 12 inches in length.—LEROY W. GILES, AND DAVID B. MARSHALL, *U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fallon, Nevada.*

Nest of Barn Swallow Saddled on Wire.—In eastern Ohio, Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*) normally plaster their nests to the sides of rafters and joists or place the nests on the tops of girders in barns. A notable exception to this practice was found on June 19, 1941, in the barn of C. A. Bieber near Youngstown, Ohio. This nest was found saddled on the top of a single small wire and had no other support than that furnished to it by the wire.

The wire to which the nest was attached carried an electric current and was insulated. This wire with the insulation was five millimeters in diameter, and its surface was quite smooth. The wire extended between two adjacent joists 60 centimeters apart, and it was attached to each joist. It was not stretched tightly but could be moved four millimeters from side to side as measured at a point midway between the joists. This condition was responsible for a significant amount of swaying of the nest each time the birds alighted on it. The nest was attached to the wire about five centimeters nearer to one joist than to the other.

The top of the nest was circular in outline. The nest extended 52 millimeters above the wire and 38 millimeters below at the farthest point. It was somewhat less bulky than other nearby nests which were plastered on the sides of the joists. Nearby, there were ample supports of the types usually chosen and where the nest might have been placed. Fourteen additional pairs of Barn Swallows occupied the barn at the same time.

Four eggs were laid, but after incubation had been in progress for about a week, the nest broke loose from the wire and fell to the floor.—PAUL A. STEWART, *Department of Zoology and Entomology, Ohio State University, Columbus 10, Ohio.*