

*gambelii* is accompanied by a pronounced hyperphagia (excessive energy intake as a result of appetite stimulation), as has been previously demonstrated during vernal fattening in this species (King and Farner, 1956, Proc. Soc. Exp. Biol. Med., 93: 354). The data of Rautenberg (1957, J. Ornith., 98: 36) and Merkel (1958, Zeits. vergleich. Physiol., 41: 154) also can be interpreted in the same way.—JAMES R. KING, *Department of Experimental Biology, University of Utah*; L. RICHARD MEWALDT, *Department of Biological Sciences, San Jose State College*; and DONALD S. FARNER, *Department of Zoology, Washington State University*.

**Nesting of Louisiana Waterthrush and White-throated Sparrow in Eastern Coastal Massachusetts.**—Although both the Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*) and the White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) have long been known to breed in western Massachusetts and have been repeatedly observed in summer in the eastern coastal area, Griscom and Snyder (Birds of Massachusetts, 1955) knew of no breeding record from that area. Breeding of both species was established in 1959 in Milton, Massachusetts, near Boston.

The Louisiana Waterthrush has been observed in late May and June at Milton and Boxford for the past 12 years. On 15 May 1959, the senior author found a nest in a heavily wooded valley in the Blue Hills, Milton, five feet above a shallow pool that connected with a clear, rapid brook 10 feet away. The nest was near the top of the upturned roots of a fallen maple tree, and was partly concealed by clods of earth hanging from the roots. When found the nest contained one egg; when next visited on 20 May, the female was sitting on three eggs. The incubating bird was flushed from three eggs on 22, 25, 28, and 30 May. On 1 June, the nest held one egg and two just-hatched young. On 12 June, the three well-grown young (the white superciliary clearly visible) were still in the nest at 10:00 A.M.; they were gone by 5:00 P.M. The young had thus flown 12 days after two eggs hatched, and 28 days after the first egg was found. The junior author heard the male singing on 3 May, but during the incubation period song was noted only on 18 May.

A White-throated Sparrow (a male in breeding plumage) was noted by the junior author and Miss Dana Mills on 10 June 1957, in a nursery of young pines and spruces near Great Blue Hill, Milton, carrying food, as if to young. White-throated Sparrows were observed at the same locality in the summer of 1958, but no nest was found at that time. On 1 June 1959, the senior author found what was apparently the 1958 nest. On 15 June 1959, in the same locality, the senior author and his wife, after a careful search, discovered under a small pine a nest containing three young. On 20 June, when the nest was next visited, the young had left.—HENRY S. FORBES, *71 Forest St., Milton 86, Massachusetts*, and JANE D. O'REGAN, *23 Crockett Avenue, Dorchester 24, Massachusetts*.

**A Substitute Name for *Crypturellus strigulosus peruvianus*.**—In a recent paper on Peruvian game birds (Fieldiana: Zoology, 1959, 39: 373), I described a new race of tinamou, *Crypturellus strigulosus peruvianus*, from Departamento Madre de Dios. My designation of the trivial name proves to be most unfortunate since preoccupied by *Crypturus tataupa peruviana* Cory, 1915. I therefore propose as a substitute: *Crypturellus strigulosus tambopatae*, nom. nov.—EMMET R. BLAKE, *Chicago Natural History Museum, Chicago, Illinois*.

**Thick-billed Kingbird Nesting in New Mexico.**—Prior to 1958, the Thick-billed Kingbird (*Tyrannus crassirostris pompalis*) was not known to occur in the

United States. In June of that year, Seymour H. Levy discovered two birds of this species in Guadalupe Cañon in extreme southeastern Arizona (Auk, 76: 92, 1959). Although he found no nest, the female kingbird which he collected contained an egg and undoubtedly was nesting nearby. Mr. Levy also located another pair of these kingbirds, with an active nest, in that part of the cañon which lies in adjacent Sonora, Mexico. Johnston and Hardy (Condor, 61: 208) reported seeing *Tyrannus crassirostris* in Guadalupe Cañon in the summer of 1958, but they cited no specific locality or date.

Between 19 June and 6 July 1959, I observed two pairs of Thick-billed Kingbirds in that part of Guadalupe Cañon which lies in southwestern Hidalgo County, New Mexico. On 20 June, one pair began constructing a nest approximately 65 feet above ground in a large sycamore (*Platanus wrightii*) 1.5 miles from the Arizona-New Mexico state line. This pair was still present, and one bird apparently incubating, on 28 June. On the same day, I located the completed nest of a second pair one-half mile to the northeast. This nest also was in a sycamore and at least 50 feet above ground. The two birds frequently exchanged places on the nest and undoubtedly were incubating. I collected the male of this pair. Its testes measured 6 x 17 mm., and a large incubation patch was present.

During the same period, I observed three pairs of Thick-billed Kingbirds in the Arizona portion of the cañon. On 20 June one of these began building a nest 25 feet above a dry stream bed in a sycamore. I did not search for nests of the other pairs.

The three nests which I observed were thin and frail, unlike the compact, well-built nests of most other North American species of *Tyrannus*. (Nests of *T. dominicensis*, the species most closely resembling *crassirostris*, are reported to be frail and loosely woven.) They appeared to be constructed largely of slender twigs and grass stems, the ends of which projected outward and upward from the rims, imparting a bristly, unfinished appearance to the structures. Each nest was in an exposed situation, although only one was conspicuous from the ground.

During the construction period the kingbirds did not range far. Both sexes indulged in considerable calling and wing fluttering whenever one returned with nest material or, later, when they exchanged positions on the nest. Both members of a pair frequently flew to the nest together. One presumed male approached so near his mate that he clumsily interfered with her placement of the nest material. Away from the immediate vicinity of their nest, mated birds usually perched within a few yards of one another. Although vociferous throughout the day, they were unusually noisy at dawn and in the evening.

The kingbirds attacked any wandering Mexican Jay (*Aphelocoma ultramarina*) that ventured near the nest tree. Sparrow Hawks (*Falco sparverius*) feeding young nearby were seemingly ignored, but hunting Cooper's Hawks (*Accipiter cooperii*) were pursued with considerable vigor whenever they appeared. Such chases invariably involved both Thick-billed and Cassin's kingbirds (*T. vociferans*) and sometimes a Western Kingbird (*T. verticalis*) as well. Cassin's Kingbirds nested near each of the Thick-bill's nests, and in one case active nests of the two species were less than 75 feet apart, in adjacent trees.

Behavior of the adult Thick-billed Kingbirds at one nest (New Mexico) on 4 and 5 July indicated that they were feeding small young. At the other New Mexican nest the female, which had not acquired a new mate in the week following collection of the male, was evidently incubating or brooding small young.

At least five pairs of Thick-billed Kingbirds inhabited the United States portion

of Guadalupe Cañon in 1959, whereas Levy (verbal information) found but one pair in the Arizona portion, and none in New Mexico, in 1958. Oliver Milton made a general collection of birds in this cañon in 1957, but did not obtain this species. Other ornithologists had visited the area in previous years, apparently without encountering these conspicuous birds. Additional observations are needed to show whether they are merely irregular summer residents or a newly established, permanent addition to the avifauna of New Mexico and Arizona.

I wish to thank S. D. Ripley and P. S. Humphrey, of the Peabody Museum, Yale University, for furnishing me with information on the Milton Collection which is under their care.—DALE A. ZIMMERMAN, *Department of Biology, New Mexico Western College, Silver City, New Mexico.*

**The Migratory Status of Some Western Desert Birds.**—In a recent paper, MacArthur (Auk, 76: 320), speaking of the correlation of migration with a striking seasonal change in vegetation, stated that the proportion of Neotropical migrants breeding in western American desert habitats is "virtually none." He cites the uncertain nature of the "desert bloom" and the lack of seasonal contrast in food conditions as discouraging the establishment of breeding populations of such migrants.

A recent list of birds occurring on southern Nevada's warm deserts (Gullion, *et al.*, Condor, 61: 278-297, 1959) includes 10 species which are winter visitors to the Neotropical Region, or 22 per cent of the 46 species of native birds breeding in this area. In addition, a review of Linsdale's list of Nevada birds (Condor, 53: 228-249, 1951), and my unpublished field notes, shows that at least 16 (17 per cent) of about 96 native birds breeding in the cold desert region of central and northern Nevada are migrants to the Neotropical Region. Thus, a total of 23 species (19 per cent) among about 120 native birds breeding in Nevada's desert regions spend their winters in the Central American tropics, or farther south.

Although I must disagree with MacArthur concerning the absence of migrants from the Neotropics as breeding birds in western desert regions, there is no disagreement with his thesis that these migrants breed primarily in areas where striking seasonal changes in vegetation occur. More detailed examination of Nevada's desert areas reveals a wide diversity of vegetation types, with at least nine major types being apparent on the warm desert alone. An analysis of the warm desert habitats, and their avian occupants, shows that only two (*Myiarchus cinerascens* and *Icterus parisorum*) of the 10 Neotropical migrant species breeding on southern Nevada's Mohave Desert spend their summers in vegetation types which show little or no seasonal change. The other eight species are summer inhabitants of deciduous woodland areas, either mesquite bosques (*Prosopis* sp.) or riparian situations along stream courses and around springs and waterholes. Similarly, the cold desert areas farther north also provide a wide diversity of habitat conditions. If the cold desert is considered in the strictest sense, including only the seasonally unchanging shadscale (*Atriplex confertifolia*) and sagebrush (*Artemisia* sp.) covered flats and valleys, there are no birds breeding in this situation which are migrants to and from the Neotropical Region. But, if the mountain ranges rising above the desert terrain are included as part of the cold desert, with their deciduous riparian associations and extensive patches of aspen (*Populus tremuloides*), chokecherry (*Prunus virginiana*) and other deciduous trees and shrubs, no fewer than 16 Neotropical migrants can be included in the breeding avifauna of the cold deserts of Nevada.