

**Golden Eagle nesting in Ontario.**—L. L. Snyder (*Auk*, 57: 565, 1940) reported the receipt of the feet of a Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) shot near its nest by an Indian a few miles inland from Cape Henrietta Maria. The nest was reported to be in a tree on a hill.

Since 1940 much exploration of northern Ontario has been undertaken. Cape Henrietta Maria has been examined by a number of field parties travelling by both water and air. It has been found that this corner of Ontario is treeless and extremely flat. It is likely that the collector of the eagle did not make his meaning clear to Mr. Jack Rogers, who gave the feet to Mr. D. B. Deeks of the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology and Palaeontology, and that the locality given as "a few miles inland from Cape Henrietta Maria" was actually much farther inland than indicated.

On 26 June 1958 Mr. Joseph Chokomolin, an Indian whose home is at Hawley Lake, told me that Golden Eagles nested nearly every year in the gorge between Hawley and Sutton lakes (54°25' N, 84°41' W) and that he knew of another five cliffs in the Sutton Hills where the species had nested at some time in the past. He also reported that Golden Eagles had used a nest in a tree which stands at the junction of the Aquatuk and Sutton rivers. This locality is about 72 miles and the Sutton Gorge about 105 miles southwest of Cape Henrietta Maria.

Trees large enough to support an eagle's nest do not grow in the extremely wet muskeg of the Hudson Bay lowlands. They are confined to the well-drained levees along the river banks and to such well-drained sites as the Sutton Hills. The Ekwan Hills could support good tree growth but they have been repeatedly swept by fire, and have no trees of any size. These localities are the closest to Cape Henrietta Maria where Golden Eagles might be expected to nest. The Aquatuk-Sutton nest is likely to be the true locality from which the eagle's feet came in 1938.

In the summer of 1959, the Department of Lands and Forests sent Dr. J. Tait and Mr. N. S. Sluys to study the fisheries of Hawley and Sutton lakes. They were asked to search for the eagle's nest in the gorge and confirm whether it was in use that year. On 14 July 1959, they found the nest containing one eaglet and Kodachrome photographs were taken of the three-quarters grown bird. The remains of two snowshoe hares (*Lepus americanus*) were in the nest. One hackle with a down filament attached and one primary feather lying in the nest were brought back and are now in the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology and Palaeontology where a copy of the Kodachrome slide has also been filed.

The eaglet hatched in 1959 did not survive, according to the Indians, but the birds bred again in 1962 when two young survived.—HARRY G. LUMSDEN, *Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, Maple, Ontario, Canada.*

**Wing-flashing in the Red-backed Scrub-robin, *Erythropygia zambesiana*.**—

In the course of the final field trip of a three-month stay in eastern Africa, I witnessed wing-flashing in the foraging behavior of *Erythropygia zambesiana*, a member of the Turdidæ (or the Turdinæ of the Muscipidæ of some taxonomists). With John G. Williams, of the Coryndon Museum in Nairobi, Kenya Colony, on 27 August 1961. The Ulu Hills area is semiarid, with considerable scrubby acacia-type growth.

The scrub-robins are very similar in proportions to the well-known American Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), although they are smaller and usually have much brown or rufous in the plumage. Most species have considerable white in the wing, and the condition found in *E. zambesiana* may be described as follows: dorsally,

there are broad white edgings to the coverts and white edgings to the outer webs of the inner secondaries; ventrally, the under wing-coverts are extensively white and the inner webs of most remiges are narrowly edged with white.

The foraging behavior that I witnessed was precisely like that of *Mimus polyglottos*. The scrub-robin in question was feeding on the ground; it would run for a short distance and, upon coming to a halt, would elevate the tail almost to the vertical and would flash its wings. This procedure was followed by immediate foraging for a few seconds (presumably for insect food). Then the entire procedure was repeated. Wing-flashing took place about 25 times in 10 minutes. In every case the opening of the wings was accomplished in two movements, with a slight pause about half way through the opening procedure; the plane of the expanded wing during flashing varied from about 45° to 60° with reference to the horizontal.

Although I observed three other species of the genus (*E. leucoptera*, *E. hartlaubi*, and *E. quadringata*), as well as other members of the present species, in my three months in Africa, I noted no other case of wing-flashing. However, I was not watching for such behavior prior to the observation described, nor did I see any other scrub-robins subsequent to the one herein noted. It seems highly unlikely that the well-developed wing-flashing behavior noted represented an abnormal behavior pattern in *E. zambesiana*.

Hailman (*Wilson Bull.*, 72: 354-355, 1960) summarized wing-flashing observations and discussed relationships of the various patterns involved. He reported no known occurrence of wing-flashing in a nonmimid that was identical to that exhibited by the Mimidae in mechanics, in precision of execution, and in stability of pattern. Further, no subsequent report of mimid-type wing-flashing in a nonmimid has been forthcoming, as far as I am aware.

Judging from numerous personal observations of the behavior in Mockingbirds, I think that the wing-flashing of *Erythropygia zambesiana* that I witnessed was identical to that of the Mimidae. If this is so, then the observation is the first one of mimid-type wing-flashing in a nonmimid.—BURT L. MONROE, JR., *Museum of Zoology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana*.

***Icterus bullockii* in Massachusetts.**—Since three (and possibly four) specimens of the Bullock's Oriole have now been taken in Massachusetts, and there are color photographs, as well as numerous well-attested sight records, of additional birds, it seems desirable to summarize the occurrence of the species here. The only previously published record (*Bull. Massachusetts Aud. Soc.*, 37: 231, 1953; see also A.O.U. Checklist, fifth edit., 1957, p. 534) seems to be that, discussed below, of two birds wintering in 1952-53 at Falmouth, Barnstable County. In the following account BMS stands for the Boston Museum of Science, MCZ for the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, and PMS for the Peabody Museum at Salem.

Two general plumage types (aside from the brilliant-hued and conspicuously black-throated adult male plumage) will be referred to hereafter as A and B.

Type A is a plumage less brilliant than that of the adult male but distinguished from that of all (or nearly all?) females by the presence of a narrow black throat patch. There appears to be some uncertainty as to whether this patch always or only usually occurs in young males, as to when it is acquired by them, and, equally, as to whether or not it ever occurs in adult females. Thus J. L. Peters (*in* A. C. Bent, *U. S. Natl. Mus., Bull.* 211: 273, 1958) wrote: "the amount of black acquired in the postjuvinal molt varies considerably and . . . the black throat is occasionally found