

sented was not food (an insect or berry) but nesting material, and the dance was not restricted to a conspecific. Putnam suggested that sexual recognition in Cedar Waxwings is based on this behavior, as the species is not sexually dimorphic and lacks functional song. Thus male Cedar Waxwings test the readiness of individuals to participate in courtship dance when attempting to secure a mate. Tyler's account of the Cedar Waxwing suggests the species is unusual in its social behavior and its interaction with other species, but I can find no record of a waxwing trying to court a bird of another species.

I thank D. W. Dunham for reading and discussing this note with me.—DANIEL J. LONCKE, *Department of Zoology, University of Toronto, Toronto 181, Ontario, Canada*. Accepted 5 Jun. 72.

Jabiru in south Texas.—On 11 August 1971 the senior author discovered and identified a Jabiru (*Jabiru mycteria*), a South American stork, on the King Ranch, Kleberg County, Texas. The bird remained in the vicinity of Escondido Lake, 7 miles southwest of Kingsville, until it was last seen on 8 September 1971. The significance of the sighting is that the species is currently on the A.O.U. check-list (Check-list of North American birds, fifth ed., Baltimore, Amer. Ornithol. Union, 1957, p. 645) hypothetical list. The single previous record of a Jabiru in the United States was in 1867. There are occasional records of the species in southern Mexico and elsewhere in Middle America. Bent (Life histories of North American marsh birds, U. S. Natl. Mus., Bull. 135, 1926, p. 66) wrote: "Its scanty claim to a place on our North American list rests on the fact that the head of a specimen, that had been taken near Austin, Texas, was donated to the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences."

The Proceedings, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, 1867, p. 248, lists under the heading, Donations to the Museum: "Durham, Geo. J., Aug. 20th. Head of *Mycteria Americana*, from near Austin, Texas; first ever obtained in the United States." *Mycteria americana* was an old name for *Jabiru mycteria*. Our correspondence in January 1972 with Frank B. Gill, Chairman, Department of Ornithology, Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, brought this response: "In an old accessions file prepared by Witmer Stone, I believe, we have found a card referring to Durham's specimen. But also indicated in pencil on that card is 'not found.' We have no record of its being catalogued, nor were we able to locate it in the Academy's collections despite a thorough search."

Witmer Stone was Chairman of the A.O.U. Check-list Committee that produced the fourth edition of the check-list and listed the Jabiru record of 1867 as unsatisfactory, and also Chairman of the Department of Ornithology, Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.

We saw and photographed the Jabiru frequently during its stay near the 400-acre Escondido Lake. (Several clearly identifiable photographs are on file at the Migratory Bird Populations Station, Laurel, Maryland.) It preferred the marshy fringes of the lake. Some birds frequently seen in close association with the Jabiru were Wood Storks (*Mycteria americana*), Common Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*), Snowy Egrets (*Leucophoyx thula*), and Cattle Egrets (*Bubulcus ibis*), among many other species. The Jabiru was wary, but usually did not flush until the birds with which it associated were alarmed. Then the Jabiru usually circled to gain altitude and soon soared much higher than the Wood Storks. These soaring flights were so high that it was difficult to see the bird without binoculars. Bent reports similar flight behavior for the Jabiru in its normal range in South America.

Based on the plumage descriptions given by Bent, the bird in south Texas had not yet attained the pure white body plumage of an adult, but the black head and neck with the red band at the base of the neck were distinct.

To investigate the possibility that the bird might be an escapee, we sent inquiries to zoos in the United States. No *Jabirus* were reported missing. In addition, the bird's behavior and strong flight made it doubtful that it had been in captivity. Clarence Cottam, Director of the Welder Wildlife Foundation, and David R. Blankinship, biologist, National Audubon Society, accompanied us on different dates to observe the bird. There was no doubt of its identity.

It is interesting to speculate that tropical storms might have disrupted the normal movements of this largest of storks in the Western Hemisphere. Several tropical storms occurred in August 1971, and unusually heavy rainfall had flooded some rangeland in south Texas when the Jabiru was first seen.—HARRY H. HAUCKE, *Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843*, and WILLIAM H. KIEL, JR., *King Ranch, Kingsville, Texas 78363*. Accepted 18 May 72.

A mammalian convergence on the avian tarsometatarsus.—Fusion of the tarsals and metatarsals in most birds has produced one of the more characteristic avian skeletal elements, the tarsometatarsus. It is of interest that at least one other vertebrate group, the Dipodidae (Mammalia, Old World Jerboas) has developed a strikingly similar skeletal element. In contrast to modern birds, the dipodids have fused only the three central metatarsals, not including the tarsals (see Figure 1A, 1D), to form a single metatarsal bone. Some genera (e.g. *Dipus*) have completely lost metatarsals I and V, whereas small splints with accompanying digits are retained in others (e.g. *Allactaga*; see Schaub 1934, Abhandl. Schweiz. Palaeont. Gesell. 57: 5 for illustration of additional genera). The most significant differences of the dipodid metatarsus from the avian tarsometatarsus occur on the proximal end and include the lack of a distinct hypotarsus and the lack of differentiation of internal and external cotyla with an intervening intercotylar prominence. The dipodids instead have three rather flat, nearly horizontally oriented facets with no intervening protuberances

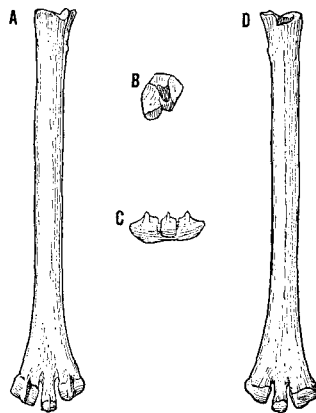


Figure 1. Fused metatarsus of *Dipus sowerbyi* (AMNH No. 55979, male), Dipodidae, Mammalia: A, posterior; B, proximal; C, distal; D, anterior ($\times 1\frac{1}{2}$).