

House Finch Parasitized by Dwarf Cowbird and Black Phoebe Nests Occupied by House Finch.—Since I first found the Dwarf Cowbird (*Molothrus ater obscurus*) in the San Bernardino Valley, California, in 1918, it has increased to such an extent that most of the small birds have been parasitized. One of our most common breeding birds is the House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*) and yet among the numerous nests, that I have examined in suitable locations, there has been but a single victim of the Dwarf Cowbird. Rex Parker called my attention on May 15, 1933, to a nest in East Colton containing three eggs of the House Finch and one of the Dwarf Cowbird. The eggs showed no signs of incubation, two of the finch eggs had holes in them, the other two eggs were addled, and the nest deserted.

The House Finch is considered by some people to be a pest and it is gratifying to find that they do not readily contribute to the support of the Dwarf Cowbird. However, with this word of praise I will give a couple of incidents which are not so good.

In April, 1931, I found a nest of the Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*) under a bridge about twenty-five miles northwest of San Bernardino, California. On May 3 of that year I again visited the nest and was surprised to flush a House Finch from the nest which then contained one egg of the phoebe and four of the finch. On this latter date the phoebe was at work on another nest a few feet away. On May 28, 1933, I visited the same bridge and found a new nest of the phoebe containing large young of the finch and within five feet a later nest of the phoebe with four of the rightful owner's eggs.—WILSON C. HANNA, Colton, California, May 30, 1933.

The Black Vulture in Arizona.—The first record known to the undersigned of the occurrence of the Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus atratus*) in Arizona is that of Cooke (Auk, xxxi, 1914, p. 403), who reported "Several seen, May 1890, by Dr. A. K. Fisher in the Tonto Basin." H. H. Kimball (CONDOR, xxv, 1923, p. 109) surprised a number of vultures from the bottom of an old ditch along the Santa Cruz River, 12 miles south of Tucson, Arizona, on May 7, 1922. At least a dozen of these were Black Vultures, he states. On November 28, 1928, Miller, Taylor and Swarth (CONDOR, xxxi, 1929, p. 76) saw 15 or 20 Black Vultures in air at one time, circling about together with a few Turkey Vultures. The locality was just south of Tucson, where a number of the Black Vultures were startled from the ground in the vicinity of a small slaughter-house.

The undersigned have noted Black Vultures at intervals over several years in the general vicinity of Tucson. On April 20, 1928, a dozen were observed feeding on discarded offal just south of the city. On January 22, 1931, Chas. R. Reynard and Taylor, returning to Tucson from the Santa Rita Experimental Range, about 5:20 p.m., saw first a flock of eleven individuals and later one of three, flying due west, about 16 miles south of the city. In the same general locality, on November 28, 1932, five Black Vultures were observed circling and flying high in air about 10 a.m. The following month, on December 18, 1932, a flock of fourteen circled overhead in the vicinity of the San Xavier crossing of the Santa Cruz at about 2 p.m. The flock held together fairly well for some time, circling and wheeling, slowly moving from the general vicinity of the San Xavier Mission southeasterly toward the new Indian Service Hospital. Later they scattered out over the Santa Cruz bottoms. On March 11, 1933, one was recorded by Vorhies northeast of Tucson.

On March 21, a flock of about thirty Black Vultures was noted near Sells (Indian Oasis), about 60 miles west of Tucson on the Papago Indian Reservation. The Vultures were congregated about a dead cow at a small earthen reservoir or tank, a mile east of Sells. A couple of these birds were collected by Vorhies, so far as known the first actual specimens taken within Arizona. One of these specimens is on deposit at the University of Arizona, the other in the United States Biological Survey. Additional birds were seen by D. M. Gorsuch in the same locality the week of April 10-14; and an old Indian chief, a former Government employee named Hugh Norris, reported Black Vultures had appeared in the vicinity only in recent years.

A. A. Nichol has observed Black Vultures at intervals in winter north to the Tucson-Ajo highway, west to the Robles Ranch and Sasabe road, and south along the Santa Cruz valley (in which Tucson is located).