

As late as August 18, one young bird was still in the nest, although the other young observed were awing, most of them capturing their own food. Since Mississippi Kites leave the Panhandle (Allan and Sime, *loc. cit.*) by the end of September, it seemed likely that the late nestling was doomed. At any rate, it was killed and eaten in the nest—presumably by one of the abundant raccoons—on the night of the 18th. From the remains, it was determined to have been a female. Other nests were found but not examined.

Cicadas appeared to play a prominent role at this season in the food habits of the kite. These insects were abundant. On several occasions I flushed cicadas from clumps of grass or shrubs. A nearby kite, with a "stoop" like that of a falcon, would seize the insect within 50 feet of me. The impact of foot with insect was distinctly audible at that distance. I tossed a number of cicadas and large grasshoppers into the air, but, despite attempts by several birds, only a single Kite succeeded in catching one of the insects.

Dragonflies and grasshoppers were seen to be captured. The most unusual food item observed, however, was a small bat brought to a treetop over my head. The bird and its prey were carefully observed with binoculars at 50 feet. Judging from its size and tawny coloration, I believe the bat may have been a pipistrelle. Bats, to my knowledge, have not been reported previously as food of the Mississippi Kite. This species, by contrast with the White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*), appears to take little mammalian prey.—PHILIP F. ALLAN, *Soil Conservation Service, Fort Worth, Texas, January 13, 1947.*

Violet-crowned Hummingbird in Arizona.—The late H. H. Kimball collected large numbers of hummingbirds in the Chiricahua Mountains near Paradise, Arizona. The majority of these he had identified correctly, but in the collection which I acquired was one he evidently recognized as especially rare, since he had made a small wooden coffin-like box, just fitting the bird, in which he had carefully placed the skin, and then had packed it among a number of Arizona Blue-throated and Rivoli hummingbirds collected at about the same time. This specimen, a male obtained on July 16, 1925, has an azure blue forehead and crown, back dusky with faint greenish gloss, tail with greenish cast, primaries dusky glossed with violet, an immaculately white chin, throat, breast, and belly, and white undertail coverts with dusky central portions. Dr. Alexander Wetmore identified the skin as *Amazilia violiceps ellioti*, the Northern Violet-crowned Hummingbird.

Kimball's specimen is an almost exact duplicate of one in my collection taken by Berry Campbell on July 11, 1935, about 95 miles south of Paradise, Arizona, at El Tigre Mine, Sonora, Mexico, labeled "male, juv." Van Rossem (*Occ. Papers, Mus. Zool., Louisiana State Univ., 21, 1945:306*) has given this location as "lat. 30° 37'; long. 109° 20'; alt. (probably over) 5,000 feet." The latter specimen was also identified by Dr. Wetmore as *Amazilia violiceps ellioti* and apparently represents the most northern record for Mexico.—MAX M. PEET, *Ann Arbor, Michigan, January 7, 1947.*

Bird Notes from Southeastern Arizona.—*Aix sponsa.* Wood Duck. We can find no published report of the occurrence of the Wood Duck in the state of Arizona. Hargrave (*Museum Notes, Museum of Northern Arizona, 9, 1936:30*) stated that "it is rumored to have been seen near Flagstaff," but he gave no details.

On November 20, 1941, at sunset, we saw a male Wood Duck in Binghamton Pond, six miles northeast of Tucson, Arizona. The light was rather poor as we watched the bird with 8x binoculars at a distance of about 200 feet. None of the bright colors could be distinguished but the pattern of light and dark areas was clearly seen. Two females swimming close to the male may also have been of this species, although positive identification in the increasing shadows was impossible.

On November 23 we visited the pond again. No ducks were seen, but we found a number of fresh, brightly-colored feathers scattered in a small area on the bank near the water. It appeared that some predator had torn some feathers off its prey at this spot before carrying it away. We collected the feathers and sent them recently to Dr. Alden H. Miller for identification. We are indebted to Dr. Miller who, in his letter of November 1, 1946, states that these feathers "are indeed those of a Wood Duck. Some of them compare very closely with the peculiarly marked flank feathers of this species. I do not believe there is anything else that could be confused with them. The feathers from other areas of the body likewise correspond."

Chlidonias nigra. Black Tern. We saw seven at Willcox Playa, Cochise County, August 13, 1946. Six were in summer plumage; the seventh was either an immature or an adult in winter plumage. There are only a few published records of the Black Tern for this area.

Tyto alba. Barn Owl. Swarth (*Pac. Coast Avif. No. 10, 1914:29*) regarded this owl as rare in southern Arizona. On May 2, 1934, Anders H. Anderson found a dead, dried bird at Binghamton Pond,