

The Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) was seen by three separate observers in Chaves County, New Mexico, on June 26 and 28, 1958. I saw one seven miles northeast of Roswell on June 26; J. J. Harman saw one, probably the same bird, near the same location on June 28; and Sam Tanner saw one, possibly the same bird again, on June 28 about 20 miles north. Scant records available to me indicate that these may be the only reliable observations in New Mexico although Bailey (Birds of New Mexico, 1928:155) mentions the existence of three specimens in the Woodhouse Collection which may have been secured in New Mexico. On July 12, 1958, I counted nine single birds of this species in a distance of about 50 miles on the highway between Shamrock, Texas, and Dill, Oklahoma. The locations referred to are separated by about 300 miles of almost treeless plains.

A new or hitherto unpublished record of the nesting of the Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) in New Mexico was secured at Bitter Lakes Refuge, near Roswell, in June, 1958. On June 19 I observed four clutches of eggs on a mud flat and on June 21 I secured pictures of one nest and one nesting bird. Mr. J. Stokley Ligon of Carlsbad, New Mexico, wrote that he had photographed a nesting Least Tern at Bitter Lakes in 1956. He stated further that these are the only known nesting records for New Mexico.—VESTER MONTGOMERY, *Roswell, New Mexico, August 2, 1958.*

Red-naped Sapsucker in Monterey County, California.—On May 19, 1958, we observed a male Red-naped Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis*) at the Hastings Reservation, Monterey County, California. This locality is two and one-half miles east of Jamesburg and approximately 20 miles east of the Pacific Ocean at Point Sur. The bird was working on the trunks of small fruit trees near a house; it was observed for about seven minutes. On May 20 it was seen again in the same place, and on May 21 it was heard calling several times and seen twice, both times drilling on an elm tree near the house. The trunk of the elm bore fresh perforations, obviously the work of this individual.

The only race with which the identity of this bird might have been confused is typical *varius*, but this form has been recorded in California only once (Davis and Howell, Condor, 53, 1951:102). Further, the nape of the individual which we observed was definitely red. Although *nuchalis* has been recorded a few times in the coastal region of California, these prior records were made in the fall and winter. The occurrence of *nuchalis* at such a late date and so far from its nearest breeding grounds, the White Mountains of extreme central eastern California, is most unusual. Indeed, the latest seasonal record of sapsuckers of the "Red-breasted" type (presumably *S. v. daggetti*), which winter regularly at the Hastings Reservation, in the period from 1937 to 1947 at that locality, was made on April 16, 1940 (Linsdale, Condor, 49, 1947:238).—JOHN DAVIS and BETTY S. DAVIS, *University of California Hastings Reservation, Carmel Valley, California, May 26, 1958.*

Mockingbird Observed on the Southern Tip of Tiburon Peninsula, Marin County, California.—On June 1, 1958, while in my garden, I heard the song of a Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*) but could not sight the bird. It was not until June 5 that I finally sighted and definitely identified it as a Mockingbird although its song was heard daily in the early morning and evening hours until June 15 when it apparently left the territory.

Observation was confined to a heavily wooded, five-acre, semi-cultivated garden. The bird seemed to restrict itself to a group of Monterey pines (*Pinus radiata*). It frequently changed perches in a short flight from tree to tree and alighted on branches close to the trunk of the tree which made observation difficult at times. Although the bird was heard every day, it was sighted only occasionally during the two-week period.

The Mockingbird's repertoire consisted of imitating the notes of many of our local (Marin County) birds, both resident and migratory. This bird seemed to be "off base" because all records indicate that Mockingbirds in Marin County, and particularly on the Tiburon Peninsula, are rare. This view is further substantiated because this appeared to be a single individual and the observations were made during the normal breeding season of this species.—RALPH J. A. STERN, *San Francisco, California, July 2, 1958.*

Occurrence of the Great Blue Heron in Arctic Alaska.—On June 13, 1958, in Wainwright on the arctic Alaskan coast, I was halted by an old Eskimo, Joe Aveoganna, who asked me whether I would like to see an unusual "duck." He entered his hut and returned carrying a Great Blue Heron

(*Ardea herodias*). He stated that he had shot the bird on June 11, at a lagoon about five miles southwest of Wainwright. The specimen was purchased and prepared as a study skin; it is now deposited at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley.

The specimen, which weighed 2064 grams, was a female (largest follicles measuring 2 mm.). The stomach contained 15 balls of hair—one, an inch in diameter, two, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter and a dozen small wads about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter. When the balls of hair were dried, the reddish color, characteristic of the brown lemming (*Lemmus trimucronatus*), was noticeable. Also in the stomach were the remains of two sets of vertebrae from small fish, probably sticklebacks. A large wad of grass and several chironomid larvae were also found.

According to Dr. Frank A. Pitelka, the specimen represents the northwestern race *A. h. jannini*.

The known breeding grounds of this race extend north to Yakutat Bay. There appear to be no previous records for the species in western or northern Alaska. For the American arctic as a whole, the latest edition of the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds mentions only accidental occurrence of the race *A. h. herodias* in Greenland.—ELBERT M. BROCK, *Arctic Research Laboratory, Barrow, Alaska, June 30, 1958.*

Brewer's Blackbirds in the Sierra Nevada, California.—On September 13, 1958, I observed a flock of 78 Brewer's Blackbirds (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) at an elevation of 11,520 feet above Lake Italy in the High Sierra Wilderness Area of the Sierra National Forest, Fresno County, California. This was about 800 feet above timberline. We had had stormy weather the previous week, but that day was comparatively warm and clear. The birds were assumed to be feeding on grasshoppers, as an abundance of the latter had been noted. They came upon us from the direction of Lake Italy and moved on up the basin, which is quite wide and open here, toward "Gabbott Pass" (elevation 12,240 feet).—PHYLLIS LINDLEY, *Berkeley, California, October 1, 1958.*

Longevity of an Injured Scrub Jay.—In April, 1950, when we moved into a new home near Monterey, California, we noticed an adult Scrub Jay (*Aphelocoma coerulescens*) with a broken upper mandible. It was broken at the base next to the skull and moved from side to side when the bird attempted to feed. We placed food on a sundeck railing and the bird soon came regularly to feed. Within a few months the upper mandible apparently fused again to the skull, but it remained bent upward and to the left so that the bird could not close the bill. The tips of the upper and lower mandibles remained at least one-half inch apart when the mouth was closed. The bird seemed to live in the immediate vicinity and fed at stations set up by neighbors who knew the bird. When we had no cats, the bird would come when whistled for and would enter the kitchen to feed on table scraps. It also liked dogfood cubes. The jay was last seen in late June, 1958. Jay feathers were found near its feeding site, and we suspect one of our cats captured it. This bird was observed almost continuously for over eight years. Considering the nature of its injury, this is an interesting longevity record.—EUGENE C. HADERLIE and AILEEN E. HADERLIE, *Monterey, California, August 11, 1958.*