

HOUSE FINCH. *Carpodacus mexicanus*

- C41213, banded at Los Angeles, Calif., on April 17, 1931, by Miss Blanche Vignos, was retrapped at same place March 6, 1936.
F32934, banded at Los Angeles, Calif., on June 20, 1931, by J. L. Partin, was found dead at same place about September 24, 1936.
*F37062, banded at Los Angeles, Calif., on July 27, 1931, by Miss Blanche Vignos, was retrapped at same place May 27, 1936.
F89929, banded at Pasadena, Calif., on June 29, 1932, by Mrs. Harold Michener, was retrapped at same place December 9, 1935 and March 13, 1937.

GOLDFINCH. *Spinus tristis*

- C117245, banded at Fort Smith, Ark., on January 5, 1933, by S. H. Weakley, was retrapped at same place March 1, 1936 and January 21, 1939.
F29861, banded at Milton, Mass., on March 25, 1931, by W. R. Peabody, was retrapped at same place March 24, 1937.
H81110, banded at Fort Smith, Ark., on March 3, 1933, by S. H. Weakley, was retrapped at same place January 26, 1936, February 5, 1938, and December 18, 1938.

(to be concluded)

GENERAL NOTES

Killdeer Nesting near Heavy Artillery.—When one considers the terrific muzzle-blast of large caliber guns, the following incident reported to me by Lieutenant-Commander F. L. Busey, of the U. S. Naval Proving Ground, at Dahlgren, Va., is truly remarkable.

Commander Busey writes that Killdeers (*Oxyechus vociferus*) "nested and hatched young about 100 feet in front of the muzzles of the 16-inch guns. These guns were fired three or four times per week and the nests were located almost in the position of the greatest gumblast effect. When the guns were fired the birds were seen to fly away but returned shortly. Battery attendants examined the nests and noticed that the eggs did not break or roll out of the nests as a result of the firing. After the young were hatched they were seen walking on the ground in the vicinity of the nest, but they disappeared from the vicinity shortly after."

The Commander adds that Quail (Bob-white) are noticed continuously on the ground within 400 feet of the muzzles of the big guns but, while no particular search has been made, no one has discovered any nests of these birds. In this connection it may be pointed out that the reservation of the Proving Ground is a game sanctuary and battery attendants and workmen are in the habit of putting out food for birds. As a result the birds are very tame and coveys of Bob-white are frequently seen in the vicinity of the firing and bombing areas. Commander Busey states that from his own experience it is very difficult to frighten the coveys and that they rarely flush except when in danger of automobiles on the roads.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C.

Two Notes on Kingbird Behavior.—While stopping for gasoline at Livingston Manor, New York, on June 20, 1941, my attention was attracted by the characteristic, monotonous food call of nestling Baltimore Orioles (*Icterus galbula*) coming from an apple tree across the highway. The nest was easily located and, wishing to examine the young, I climbed the tree. This alarmed the parents and a pair of Kingbirds (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) as well. The cause for the kingbirds' concern was revealed when I discovered that they were nesting in the same tree as the orioles, and not far from them. The latter's nest was about twenty feet above the ground and attached to a nearly upright branch in the top of the tree,

which itself was not more than 22 feet high. The nest of the kingbirds was approximately thirteen feet from the ground and on a horizontal limb. The two nests were not more than fifteen feet apart, the orioles' being west of the kingbirds' and on an angle of about 40 degrees.

The kingbird was clearly the second of the two species to select the tree as a nest site, for its eggs had just hatched whereas the orioles were almost ready to leave their nest. In this case then, the oriole, which has been known to "do battle" with the kingbird, permitted the latter's presence in that small tree. Considering the kingbird to be a jealous guardian of its nest tree, it would be interesting to know whether it would tolerate a pair of orioles as the orioles had tolerated it.

The second of these short notes concerns a pair of kingbirds nesting at Beaver Kill, New York, five miles from Livingston Manor. Their nest was discovered on June 19, 1941, when it contained three eggs. On July 6 these eggs were still unhatched; four days later the nest was empty. At this later date (July 10) the birds were still present, and one was seen perched about three feet from the nest and on the same branch. They scolded when I climbed the tree, but did not display conspicuously. Although there were two eggs in this nest on July 21, only one cracked egg lay in it on July 29. Since the kingbird is said usually to rebuild nearby if its first nest is molested or destroyed, this occurrence is unusual in that the same nest was unsuccessfully used for two sets of eggs.

REFERENCES

- CHAPMAN, F. M. 1932. Birds of Eastern North America: 365.
 FORBUSH, E. H. 1929. The Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States, vol. 2: 327-329.
 RICHARD B. FISCHER, 140-19 Beech Avenue, Flushing, New York.

A Simple Method for the Capture of Bank Swallows.—While earth was being moved in the construction of an athletic field on the campus of Kent State University, some fresh gravel banks were left exposed during the spring of 1939. Many Bank Swallows (*Riparia riparia riparia* (Linn), and a number of Rough-winged Swallows (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis serripennis* (Audubon)) tunneled into these banks for a nesting site. Several students (Carl Rosenberger, Kenneth Chiavetta, and Leslie Sheary), assisting the writer with bird-banding studies, developed a simple technique for capturing these swallows for banding. One person would stamp about over the top of the bank while one or more would stand close by the tunnels. As the birds emerged as a result of the disturbance, they were captured by the sweep of an insect net. Twenty-four Bank Swallows, half of which were young birds, were captured in this manner. Two individuals were recaptured. One Rough-winged Swallow was banded and recaptured twice. R. B. Fischer described (*Bird-Banding* 13 (1) : 31-33. 1942) a similar method for capturing Barn Swallows.—RALPH W. DEXTER, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

Returns from a Nest of Banded Crows.—On May 18, 1941, we banded a group of five crow nestlings (*Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos* Brehm) in a single nest in a tree at Bedford, Ohio. Twenty days later, on June 7th, one of these birds (Biol. Surv. 39-520912) was shot in Cleveland. On September 24th, eighteen weeks from the time of banding, two others (Biol. Surv. 39-520914 and 39-420916) was shot at Oxford, Ohio, some 225 miles southwest of Bedford. It is interesting that the Oxford returns were made by a person from Bedford.—RALPH W. DEXTER, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

Unusual Chickadee Returns.—On November 10, 1936 I banded two Black-capped Chickadees (Nos. 35-5166 and 35-5168), the first at 3:15 and the second at 3:30 P.M. Both these birds were retaken together at 8:15 A.M. on September 15, 1941 and again at 3 P.M. March 5, 1942. On each of the two last occasions they