

typical race or the western subspecies, *C. m. circumcinctus*, occurs there. At least the initial step toward the solution of this problem has now been made. It is also of considerable interest that a bird raised within 100 miles of the southern limit of its present breeding range should be recovered at the southern extremity of its winter range.—Chandler S. Robbins and Robert E. Stewart, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Patuxent Research Refuge, Laurel, Maryland.

**Common Terns Nesting in Illinois.**—For several years a small colony of Common Terns, *Sterna hirundo hirundo* (Linnaeus), have been making unsuccessful attempts to nest at Waukegan, Illinois, on the shore of Lake Michigan. As early as 1937, William I. Lyon banded a few young on the property of the Public Service Company. We returned to the nests two days later and found them deserted because the sand tracked up by dogs had apparently wrecked the nests and eggs, carrying off the young birds that we had banded. During the years of 1938-1939 and 1940 a few pair made attempts to nest on this site, a small mound of sand about eight feet above the water and about fifty feet back from the beach, in an area that is fenced off from the public. To my knowledge none of the young ever survived owing to the dogs and cats that were able to get to the grounds along the shore.

With the advent of the war this became restricted area and no attempt was made by anyone that I know of to do anything with the colony. During the war while on duty here with the Coast Guard I observed the adult birds carrying minnows into the site, so I am certain that they continued in their nesting attempts. The company guards on duty there told me that "Black-headed Gulls" would dive at them whenever they approached that piece of ground. This covers the years from 1941 to 1946. It is evident that there have been nests there each year since 1937.

This year I obtained a permit to enter this property and on June 9th, I found three nests with two eggs and one with three eggs, all being incubated. On June 15th, the nests were, except for one nest with two warm eggs, destroyed. The rest of the eggs were either broken or scattered from the nests. Tracks in the sand indicated dogs. However, I noticed several adult birds flying toward the property of the Johns Manville Corporation across the road, with minnows in their bills. Looking this area over with my glasses I discovered fifteen adults apparently on nests in a small area between the factory buildings and the lake shore. It consists of a low flat barren bit of dried mud, devoid of vegetation, except on the north and east sides which had a heavy growth of weeds. On the south is a railroad track and the west is bounded by a refuse dump.

Upon my return from my gull banding trip to the northern end of Lake Michigan, I obtained a permit to enter this property, and on June 28th I banded ten young terns there and one on the Public Service site. There were still many unhatched eggs in some of the nests. On July 4th I banded 21 more young birds and found several hiding in the weeds that had been banded June 28th. On July 15th one more was banded making a total of 33. All the young birds had disappeared, but one nest with three fresh eggs was lined with fresh grass and weeds, apparently a second attempt to nest.

I believe that many of the banded birds got into the air, as during the latter part of July and early August I observed several incidents of young terns flying with the adults, and attempts being made by the adults to feed them in the air. A failure of this attempt would result in the birds landing on the water, and after the transfer of the minnow they would take to the air again.

According to a report from the Fish and Wildlife Service this is the first record of Common Terns nesting in Illinois. I shall endeavor to check on this colony each year. H. E. McArthur, Waukegan, Illinois.

**A Case of Polygamy in the American Redstart.**—On June 22, 1947 I found a nest of the American Redstart, *Setophaga ruticilla* (Linnaeus), at Credit