

four species nesting together. A recent case involving three species was published in *The Auk* by Watson (80: 377-378, 1963). In the summer of 1963, a similar case came to my attention.

In the front yard of my next door neighbor, Robert S. Barnes, at 1226 Fairview Dr. in Kent, Ohio, three species of birds nested together in the same tree during the summer of 1963. The tree is an English Hawthorn, close to the house, and not over 30 ft. tall. Near the top nested a pair of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (*Phœticus ludovicianus*). Some 10 feet lower was a nest of the Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*). Some 9 feet toward the north and somewhat lower in elevation from the grosbeak nest, a pair of House Sparrows (*Passer domesticus*) nested. The Rose-breasted Grosbeaks soon established dominance over the others, but nesting was completed successfully by all three species with reasonable harmony in spite of their close proximity and the dominance of one species over two others that usually are aggressive themselves.—Ralph W. Dexter, Department of Biological Science, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio.

Some Mammal Predators in a Colony of Common Terns.—On 7 June 1955 while banding several hundred downy Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*) at Metropolitan Beach, Lake St. Clair, Macomb County, Michigan, I discovered several dead, partially devoured adults and downy young. At about the same time Mr. William B. Stapp brought to me an extremely large Norway Rat, (*Rattus norvegicus*). This rat was still alive but nearly every portion of its body was covered with wounds, its eyes were missing and the skin from behind the shoulders to the end of the nose had been removed. The condition of the animal was obviously the result of pecking and scalping by the adult terns. Experimentally, the rat was released in the thickest portion of the tern colony. Immediately it was viciously attacked by no less than twenty-five adult terns.

It was apparent that this was the creature responsible for at least some of the predation of young and adult terns and its condition obviously was due to attacks by these birds. The adult terns, incubating and brooding at night, would have been largely as helpless as the young before the attacks of this mammal.

During the next breeding season of 1956, dead young and adults were again discovered in the same colony and a predator, a three-quarter grown opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), was discovered in a hollow willow at the edge of the colony. This animal showed no signs of wounds, probably because its depredations were accomplished only at night while those of the common rat were both nocturnal and diurnal.

As those who band them know, common terns are able to inflict painful wounds on even a human being. My practice is to wear a hard-topped helmet when working in tern colonies to avoid the plummet-like diving impact of these birds.

Other mammal predators on mainland and sometimes island common tern colonies are minks, weasels, foxes, skunks and raccoons. Fortunately, most tern colonies are located on sandspits or island areas which are comparatively free from most animal predation. Apparently the concerted attacks of these birds on an animal even the size of a fox or skunk can be very effective during daylight hours.—Walter P. Nickell, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Rough-winged Swallow Recovered in Bank Swallow Colony.—On 24 June 1959 I banded a brood of seven Rough-Winged Swallows (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*) in a drain tile at Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, Oakland County, Michigan (latitude 42°30' longitude 83°10'). This drain tile was in a stone wall five feet above the ground level. The band numbers of these seven birds were 61-45592 through 61-45598. On 16 June 1961 one of these birds, band number 61-45593, was netted at a colony of Bank Swallows (*Riparia riparia*) at Calcite, Rogers City, Presque Isle County, Michigan (latitude 45°30' longitude 83°50') about 250 miles to the north of the point of banding. The bank swallow colony was in the perpendicular face of a pile of finely-crushed limestone where I had been netting and banding bank swallows for four years. I believe that this bird was nesting in an old bank swallow tunnel as this colony had been occupied by bank swallows for several years. This is the second time I have netted rough-winged swallows in bank swallow colonies. On 13 July 1961 two adults and two flying immature