

late September to October 4. Unfortunately, this bird was not obtained (Baumgarten and Rapp, 1953. *Nebraska Bird Rev.*, 21:2-3).

Finally, an immature male ani was shot six and three-fourths miles northeast of Blue Rapids, Marshall County, Kansas, on October 28. The specimen was brought by Elizabeth G. McLeod to Ted Andrews, of Kansas State Teachers College at Emporia. Andrews presented the specimen to the University of Kansas, where I prepared it as a study skin. The bird weighed 67.5 grams, had some fat, and had testes approximately 3 mm. long. It was in fresh plumage with sheaths still attached to the bases of the remiges and rectrices. The ani was immature, as judged from the incompletely ossified skull.

Speculation as to the cause of this movement of at least five (and probably many more) anis from their normal range seems futile. The invasion, if it may be called that, spanned at least five weeks in time and took at least one bird 1100 miles north of the species' nearest usual haunts in southern Texas.

Groove-billed Anis were previously reported in this portion of the Great Plains only from Kansas, where a specimen was taken in Lyon County on November 1, 1904.—HARRISON B. TORDOFF, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, March 30, 1953.*

The voice of the Grand Potoo.—The identification of birds of the night by means of their voices sounding in the darkness of virgin forests is one of the most difficult tasks of the ornithologist travelling in tropical countries. Besides the owls and the true nighthawks which lead in the nocturnal concert, there are in the New World the strange potoos (*Nyctibiidae*). Little has been published on their call notes. Everybody who listens for the first time to the cry of *Nyctibius griseus*, a common and widely distributed species, is in doubt whether these unusual sounds can be attributed to a bird at all. The song consists of a falling-off series of full, melodious notes that sound human. It has already been described several times (see, for instance, Sutton, 1950. *Bird-Banding*, 21:154-155) and it is generally assumed that the voices of other potoos are similar. However, this statement is misleading, at least regarding the Grand Potoo (*Nyctibius grandis*).

The voice of this species sounds like a very harsh, deep, and long *kwak* or *kaw* or *gaw-ar*. The calls are uttered always separately. At pairing time the loud quacking is repeated at intervals of 10 or 20 seconds, but there is never a connection between the single notes, as in *Nyctibius griseus*. Sometimes the voice of the Grand Potoo is more like that of *Nyctibius griseus*, as many individuals of the latter species make harsh sounds, but *griseus* is always distinguishable by its uninterrupted falling-off pattern.

I find in the literature only two references which clearly deal with the voice of *Nyctibius grandis*. To Goeldi (1900. *Bol. Museu Paraense*, 3:211) the call of the Grand Potoo sounded "like the mewling of a big cat," while he reproduced the song of *Nyctibius griseus* as *pu-hu-hu*, if slowly spoken in a high voice. Haverschmidt (1948. *Auk*, 65:32) remarked that he heard strange notes of *Nyctibius grandis* sounding like *oorrrroo* or *oorrr*.

It may be added that both species, when fighting, utter cries in a croaking manner different from the song described above.

These observations on the Grand Potoo were made in the state of Mato Grosso, Xingú region, Central Brazil.—HELMUT SICK, *Fundação Brasil Central, Avenida Nilo Peçanha 23, Rio de Janeiro, D. F., Brazil, March 12, 1953.*