

**Juvenile Cowbird attended by Parula Warblers.**—In Bent (1953. *U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull.* 203:145) it is indicated that, although instances are known, the Parula Warbler (*Parula americana*) is very seldom parasitized by the Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*). In view of this, the following observations may be of interest.

At about eleven o'clock in the morning of June 30, 1954, I was investigating the edge of a wet deciduous woodland near College Park, Maryland, when I discovered a fully-fledged young Cowbird being attended by a pair of Parula Warblers. Observation was continued for about ten minutes with  $7 \times 35$  binoculars from distances of twenty to thirty feet. The Cowbird was on the ground at first, but it became somewhat alarmed at my approach, and flew unsteadily into the small trees at the forest edge. It uttered begging calls continually and solicited food from the warblers, as well as from an American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) which seemed interested but did not feed the Cowbird. I clearly saw only the female warbler actually feed the latter, but the male remained near, apparently somewhat disturbed both by me and by the robin. He may have fed the Cowbird, but several of the acts of feeding were accomplished so quickly that I could not be sure which warbler performed them.

A short time later I saw a group of four adult Cowbirds (two males, two females) feeding on the ground about one hundred yards away.—FRANK G. ANDERSON, 4608 Fordham Road, College Park, Maryland, July 6, 1954.

**Aquatic snails found attached to feathers of White-faced Glossy Ibis.**—Several aquatic gastropods were discovered adhering to the feathers of a White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis mexicana*), by Edwin B. Davidoff while he was brushing the specimen for ectoparasites. The bird was collected two miles south of Orr's Ranch, Skull Valley, Tooele County, Utah, on May 25, 1954, by Mr. John Bushman. All of the snails were immature, making identification possible to genus only. Represented were *Physa*, *Lymnaea* and *Helisoma*, genera belonging to three distinct families of basommatophorous Pulmonata.

The importance of such observations lies in the valuable data they may furnish relative to possible avian dispersal of various mollusks. For example, Baker (1945. *The Molluscan Family Planorbidae*, Univ. Ill. Press, pp. 39–40) has pointed out the close similarity of migration routes and the distribution of some planorboid snails in the West Indian region, concluding that “. . . the populating of many if not all of the islands of the West Indies with planorboid and other fresh-water mollusks has been brought about through the agency of migrating birds.” Some such similar mode of dispersal must be in operation to account for the distribution of aquatic mollusks in the widely separated bodies of water in the Bonneville Basin desert region.

It has long been known that various mollusks may become attached accidentally to the bodies of various other organisms, several excellent examples from the earlier literature having been cited by Kew (1893. “The Dispersal of Shells,” Kegan Paul, Trench, Trubner & Co., Ltd.). Subsequent observations, several of which relate to attachment to birds, have appeared from time to time (citations in writer's file available upon request). I would like to reiterate here Baker's plea to ornithologists, sportsmen and others who have occasion to examine the bodies of birds to save any mollusks they may find and to turn these specimens over to a malacologist for study.—ERNEST J. ROSCOE, *Zoology Department, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, September 14, 1954.*