

to the large cage the male attempted copulation but the female was not receptive until the latter part of March when copulation became frequent. On May 6 the first egg was laid but soon was broken. By the time a sixth egg (May 25) had been laid the female was setting much of the time, the male replacing her occasionally. None of the eggs hatched.

Each year the birds began to show an interest in the nest box during the last days of February and did a little courting. Laying began about the middle of April and continued into May until five or six eggs had been laid. In one season, of three eggs which remained unbroken, one was not fertile but the other two contained embryos. None ever hatched.

At 86 months of age the male died of encephalitis. The remaining female survived five years more, dying at the age of 115 months. A year before this she began to refuse all food but white mice, although she appeared in good condition. A week before death, her appetite began to fail and she would sit on her perch with eyes closed. An autopsy was performed but no pathology was found.—FRANK A. HARTMAN, *Department of Physiology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, December 15, 1958.*

Chipping Sparrow copulates with House Sparrow.—On the afternoon of July 17, 1959, an adult male House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) was feeding approximately 15 feet from a small Scotch pine in Kalamazoo, Michigan. This tree contained a nest of a pair of Chipping Sparrows (*Spizella passerina*), in which was one young bird. One of the Chipping Sparrows, a male judging from its bright rufous crown, flew from the tree and alighted, facing the House Sparrow and some two feet from it. The House Sparrow, with partially extended wings and upturned bill, immediately hopped toward the Chipping Sparrow in the attitude usually associated with food-begging by young House Sparrows. The Chipping Sparrow retreated approximately one foot from the advancing House Sparrow, then turned and advanced toward it. While the House Sparrow was still crouched with partially extended wings, the Chipping Sparrow hopped to its side, mounted the now passive bird and attempted copulation. I could not ascertain if actual cloacal contact was achieved. No longer than four seconds passed from the time the Chipping Sparrow mounted until it fluttered off and returned to the nest tree. The House Sparrow, after approximately 30 seconds, flew to a nearby building.—THANE S. ROBINSON, *Department of Biology, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, Michigan, August 7, 1959.*

Caspian Tern and Black Skimmer in Newfoundland.—On July 10, 1958, Tordoff and an ornithology class from the University of Michigan Biological Station found a single pair of Caspian Terns (*Hydroprogne caspia*) nesting in a large colony of Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) at Rogers City, Presque Isle County, Michigan. These terns very likely were the same individuals found nesting there in 1957 (Pettingill, 1958. *Jack-Pine Warbler*, 183–184). With the adult terns we found two large young capable of short flights. We captured and banded (FWS 566-32953) one of the young.

On September 30, 1958, this tern was shot by Mr. Edwin Keeping at Boxey, Fortune Bay, Newfoundland. Southern wrote to Keeping to confirm the information received from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bird Banding Office. The recovery date sent to us by this office was October 9, which seems to be the date the report was received rather than the date the bird was taken. In addition to supplying details on the tern, Mr. Keeping also sent to us for identification part of another bird—the bill and anterior part of the crown and face of a Black Skimmer (*Rynchops nigra*), probably a male judging by bill size. Keeping had taken the skimmer at Boxey on September 30, 1958. The specimen has been sent to the National Museum of Canada for permanent preservation.

The Caspian Tern is an “uncommon summer resident” in Newfoundland and probably