

of Lake Yojoa. This represents the second specimen for the country of this common species (YPM [Osteo.] 8150).

On 31 May, 4 h were spent exploring the coastal mangrove swamps at Tela. The following 3 species may summer regularly in the mangrove lagoons along the Caribbean coast; the scarcity of records probably reflects the scarcity of visits by ornithologists.

Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*). A small flock of these terns was seen and 1 immature male was collected (YPM [Osteo.] 8161). This is the second specimen record for Honduras (see Brown and Monroe, Condor 76:348-349, 1974).

Black Terns (*Chlidonias niger*). Several of these terns, in nonbreeding plumage, were present with other terns. The only previous spring record was 13 April.

Black Skimmers (*Rynchops nigra*). Several skimmers were seen, and 1 male was collected (YPM [Osteo.] 8160). This is the first specimen record and the third record for the country.

The afternoon of 3 June and the morning of 4 June were spent exploring the farmland and brackish backwaters around Choluteca and the eastern side of the Bay of Fonseca.

Collared Forest-Falcon (*Micrastur semitorquatus*). On 3 June a light phase adult of this species was seen feeding an immature bird (YPM 88922). This is the first record from the Pacific slope of Honduras, but the occurrence was predicted by Monroe (1968).

American Oystercatchers (*Haematopus palliatus*). On 3 June, 2 oystercatchers were observed as they fed around a small pond. The previous 3 records for Honduras (Brown and Monroe 1974) are all from the Caribbean coast.

A number of shore and marsh birds may summer regularly in the marshy country around the Bay of Fonseca. Again the lack of records probably reflects our limited knowledge of bird life in that area. For example, the following species represent later spring records than any reported by Monroe (1968): Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*), 1; Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*), 10; Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*), several; Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*), several; dowitcher (*Limnodromus* sp.), 8-10; Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*), 100-150.

We are grateful for the friendly assistance of the officials of the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana, and wish to express our special thanks to Miguel Avedillo and Antonio Molina.—FRED C. SIBLEY, GEORGE F. BARROWCLOUGH AND CHARLES G. SIBLEY, Peabody Museum, Yale Univ., New Haven, Connecticut 06520. (PRESENT ADDRESS GFB: J. F. Bell Museum of Natural History, Univ. Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55455.) Accepted 10 Jan. 1979.

Wilson Bull., 92(1), 1980, pp. 126-127

A nest of the Ringed Gnatpiper (*Corythopsis torquata*).—The nest of the Ringed Gnatpiper (*Corythopsis torquata*) seems not to have been described. While studying Amazonian birds in swampy, mature forest of the Aurá Reserve (Oniki, Acta Amazonica 2:59-79, 1972) near Belém, Brazil, on 30 November 1972, E. O. Willis located, on the ground by a log, an oven-shaped nest of this species.

One singing bird walked near a second individual, which entered the nest. The moss-covered nest, now in the collection of the Museu Goeldi in Belém, has the side entrance somewhat overhung on the upper rim. Other than external mosses, the nest material is mostly leaves, twigs and rachises of Leguminosae; just beneath the lining is a layer of softer decomposed leaves. The lining is of fine rhizomorphs. The nest weighed 45 g when dry, and measured 12 cm high by 13.5 cm long outside; the entrance was 5.5 cm in diameter and the nest chamber 9.5 cm deep from the entrance.

When discovered, the nest contained 2 large pinkish or buffy eggs with very slight mottling of darker buff around the large end. On 8 December, the nest contained 1 young and 1 egg.

On 9 December there were 2 young, which had sparse dusky down on head, wings and back. On 19 December, 2 were still in the nest. On 21 December at 14:20, the single remaining bob-tailed, but well-feathered, young flew from inside the nest, fluttering away close to the ground.

The adults were very timid. Only twice in 15 visits after discovery did an adult fly out of the nest, snapping its beak. In 1 of the 15 visits (17 December) an adult snapped its beak and sang faintly as it walked on the forest floor near the nest.

Oven-shaped nests, pinkish-buffy eggs and downy young are found in many Tyrannidae but seldom in Formicariidae. This may support placement of the genus in the Tyrannidae as suggested by Ames, Heimerdinger and Warter (Postilla 114:1-32, 1968). However the general nest type and egg color of this species do occur in ground-nesting birds of various families.

Fieldwork was possible thanks to Princeton University and to grants GB-32921 from the National Science Foundation and TC no. 6998-71 from the Conselho Nacional de Pesquisas of Brazil.—YOSHIKA ONIKI AND EDWIN O. WILLIS, *P.O. Box 644, Silver Spring, Maryland 20901*. (Present address YO: *Avenida Modesto Fernandes s/no., Bairro Barão Geraldo, 13.100 Campinas, S. Paulo, Brazil*; EW: *Dept. Biology, P.O. Box 249118, Univ. Miami, Coral Gables, Florida 33124*.) Accepted 4 Dec. 1978.

Wilson Bull., 92(1), 1980, pp. 127-128

First breeding record of the Double-crested Cormorant in Virginia.—While investigating the breeding avifauna of the lower James River during the summer of 1978, we found active nests of the Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) in Charles City County, Virginia. As there are no previous records of the nesting of this species in Virginia, and only 1 other breeding locality in this region of the Atlantic seaboard (southeastern North Carolina; Parnell, N.C. State Mus. Nat. Hist. 1977:330-384), we felt that documentation of these nests should be of interest.

The nest-site is located within a heronry on the remains of old, sunken, gravel barges near the middle of the James River approximately 3 km east of Hopewell, Virginia, and is 1.5 km from either shore. Trees and shrubs have become established on the wood of the barges, although there is no soil substrate associated with the "island." The vegetation includes silver maple (*Acer saccharinum*), sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*), river birch (*Betula nigra*) and at least 4 other woody species of plants. The height of the vegetation is approximately 7 m and the dimensions of the island are 25 × 75 m. A heronry, first noticed in 1977, completely occupies the site. Cormorants might have nested in 1977 as they were seen in the area after the breeding season, but our surveys were too late that year to detect nesting. Censuses during May, June and July, 1978, revealed the presence of the following nests (maximum number): Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*), 298; Great Egret (*Casmerodius albus*), 6; Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*), 1; Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*), probably 1 pair, nest not found; Green Heron (*Butorides striatus*), 1; and Double-crested Cormorant, 6. We observed the cormorants sitting on nests on 29 May and these were subsequently observed by F. R. Scott, W. K. Slate and H. Olson (pers. comm.) on 5 June. The cormorant nests began to disappear on-by-one and by 26 June (Scott and Olson, pers. comm.) all were gone. The nests were probably removed by Cattle Egrets which we observed taking material from nearby nests of their own species and of other egrets. Production of young by the cormorants was not substantiated, but 1 or more immature birds were seen within 100 m of the island on 26 June and 4 and 13 July.

The expansion of the range of this species, especially at this inland site more than 100 km