

flaged by its dark colors, it was perched in a shady spot about six inches from the ground.

We returned to the same stretch of bottomland on 4 and 10 October. On 4 October we found no Winter Wren, though we did see several other interesting bird species. On 10 October, again after the arrival of a cold front during the night, we found one Winter Wren. This bird took refuge in some bushes.

On consulting the records of various bird observers in Bartlesville, and data filed by the recorder of the Bartlesville Audubon Society, we found that Mrs. Messerly had seen a bird she believed to be a Winter Wren on 3 October 1966 in the Turkey Creek bottomland near her house; that Mrs. V. S. Cronquist had seen one in a wooded ravine just east of Bartlesville on 13 April 1966; and that Mr. and Mrs. Robert Haas had seen one on 30 April 1966 in their heavily wooded backyard near Bartlesville (1966, *Audubon Field Notes*, 20: 524). The date of this last sighting is probably exceptional. —Sophia C. Mery, 345 S. E. Boston Ave., Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003, 15 January 1969.

**Early nesting of the House Finch in Oklahoma.**—The earliest date on record for the nesting of the House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) in Oklahoma is 13 May 1961; on that date George M. Sutton and I found a nest with three fresh eggs along Texakeet Creek a few miles southeast of the village of Kenton, Cimarron County (Sutton, 1967, *Oklahoma Birds*, p. 590). Another nest that I found that day, but that I have not reported until now, held four heavily incubated eggs. Each of these nests was about 4 ft. up in cholla cactus (*Opuntia imbricata*) growing in gently sloping, rather heavily grazed pastureland.

On 25 April 1968, members of my ornithology class, Charles W. Comer, and I watched upwards of a dozen House Finches in trees immediately back of the general store in Kenton. Subsequent search in patches of cholla cactus near the trees disclosed three House Finch nests, each about 4 ft. above ground. One nest was old. The two occupied nests held, respectively, four slightly incubated eggs and four fresh eggs. We flushed a female bird from each of the occupied nests.

The House Finch has not been found nesting anywhere in Oklahoma except in the Black Mesa country of northwestern Cimarron County. In that area the species obviously favors a cholla cactus nest-site, though in the summer of 1924 a pair in Kenton nested 7 ft. up in a black locust that was a bit over 8 ft. high and that was "surrounded by tall rose bushes" (Tate, 1925, *Condor*, 27: 176).—David F. Parmelee, *Department of Biology, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia, Kansas 66801, 18 September 1968.*

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS

The *Bulletin* is sent to all members of the Oklahoma Ornithological Society. Membership fee is \$5.00, sustaining, or \$2.00 regular. Checks made out to the society should be sent to the treasurer, Mrs. Ruth A. McNew, 114 S.E. 35th St. (P.O. Box 94224), Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73109. Editor of the *Bulletin* is Sophia C. Mery, 345 S.E. Boston, Bartlesville, Oklahoma 74003.