

The young in the second nest were a little older when found. They left it either on July 28 or 29.

On July 26 I watched a third pair of birds feeding a family that had but recently left its nest, so it appears that the young on the average are ready to leave the nest by the latter part of July. There is, however, a possibility that the nesting season was delayed some in 1955 because of the late spring and that ordinarily nesting would take place a week or so earlier.

According to the account of this willow warbler in Bent (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 196, 1949:332), no nest of the willow warbler has previously been recorded for North America.—ADOLPH MURIE, *Moose, Wyoming, February 13, 1956.*

**Notes on a Nest of the Guianan Chachalaca.**—The Guianan Chachalaca (*Ortalis motmot*) is rather common in the coastal area and the savanna region of Surinam. It is not a bird of thick forests but its favorite habitat is dense patches of jungle along the rivers and creeks and also the sandy savanna's covered with scattered and almost impenetrable bushes and surrounded on all sides by forest. It is not averse to cultivation, provided it is not too intensive, and it often frequents deserted and thickly overgrown plots of cultivation.



Fig. 1. Nest of *Ortalis motmot* with three eggs. Zanderij, Surinam, December 4, 1955. Photograph by F. Haverschmidt.

The native name for this chachalaca in Surinam is "Wakago" (= walk and go), which is well chosen and gives an excellent transcription of the call note which indeed is one of the most characteristic bird notes of the country. I particularly remember how the loud and rapidly repeated *wákägō*, *wákägō* sounded at sunrise from all directions when I was staying at the Indian village of Apoura at the Corentyne River on June 14, 1953.

Being a secretive bird that usually is seen only when suddenly flushed from a thick tangle, very little of its nesting habits is known. Its eggs are not represented in the large egg collection assembled in Surinam for the Penard brothers and which is now preserved in the Leyden Museum (Hellebrekers, Zoöl. Mededeelingen, 24, 1942). The Penard brothers (De Vogels van Guyana, vol. 1, 1908) tell us that it nests in the short dry season which lasts from mid-February to mid-April.

On December 4, 1955, which is in the short rainy season lasting from mid-November to mid-

February, I flushed a Wakago from a small bush on the savanna at Zanderij near the edge of the forest. The bird disappeared in a surprisingly noiseless flight and uttered only a few cackling alarm notes. The nest was in a fork of a rather small shrub at a height of about two meters at the very edge of the bush. Near it was a small wasp's nest. The nest was amazingly small for such a large bird and it was made of small roots and flattened leaves of the surrounding shrubs. The nest cup was lined with dead as well as fresh green leaves, suggesting that building and up-keeping had continued during the laying period. The nest contained three rather rough-shelled, white eggs which filled the cup. Two of the eggs were nest stained to a considerable extent, from which it may be supposed that the eggs had been laid with an interval of more than one day. The eggs were fresh, one of them being distinctly smaller than the two others. The measurements and weight of the unblown eggs were: 56.9×38.1 mm., 44 gms.; 55.0×38.9 mm., 38.2 gms.; 52.2×36.2 mm., 44 gms. The measurements of these eggs fall within the limits of those mentioned in the literature.

The weight of four adult Wakago's collected by me in Surinam was: 3 ♂ 493, 495 and 500 gms., 1 ♀ 385 gms. The weight of a fresh egg is therefore about one-tenth of the body weight of the birds.—  
F. HAVERSCHMIDT, *Paramaribo, Surinam, January 7, 1956.*

**A White-throated Golden-crowned Sparrow.**—On April 29, 1951, an adult female *Zonotrichia* was collected one and three-fourths miles northwest of Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, California. The bird had an ovary measuring 5 millimeters in length and heavy deposits of subcutaneous fat. Although appearing to be a Golden-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia atricapilla*), this bird had a pure white throat. As might be expected my first reaction was that the specimen was a hybrid between the Golden-crowned Sparrow and the White-throated Sparrow (*Z. albicollis*). Comparisons with specimens in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and the Stanford Natural History Museum were therefore made.

The pileum is like that of *atricapilla*, having a median patch of yellow bordered laterally by broad black stripes and posteriorly by an area of light gray or whitish. There is no indication of the white superciliary stripe of *albicollis* although some normal *atricapilla* show a considerable amount of gray in the black postocular region. The supraloral region, which is yellow in *albicollis*, is black in the specimen as it is in *atricapilla*. Careful examination of this region will reveal a few yellow-tipped feathers in normal *atricapilla*. These are also present in the specimen. The tones of brown in the scapular region of *albicollis* are more rufescent than in *atricapilla*. The specimen is like normal *atricapilla* in this respect. The specimen lacks the yellow area at the carpal joint found in *albicollis* but absent in *atricapilla*, and the anterior underparts are olivaceous gray as in *atricapilla*, rather than medium gray as in *albicollis*. In all other areas of the plumage the specimen is similar to normal individuals of *atricapilla*.

Thus it is only in the possession of an extensive pure white throat that the specimen suggests that one of its parents may have been a White-throated Sparrow. The entire throat area is immaculate white, even more so than in a female *albicollis* taken at the same locality on April 19, 1951, just 10 days before the white-throated Golden-crown was collected. In *albicollis* the white throat is sharply demarcated from the gray breast and blackish malar stripes are often present. The throat of the present specimen blends gradually into the breast and lacks any trace of black edges. Thus, although pure white, it actually is quite different in its detailed appearance from the throat pattern of *albicollis*.

Some specimens of *atricapilla* have a number of white feathers at the base of the bill, and the throat in all normal individuals tends to be lighter than the breast. In the Stanford Natural History Museum there are two specimens of *Z. atricapilla* with some white in the throat. A male (no. 1578) taken at Redwood City, San Mateo County, California, on April 14, 1917, has the throat paler than normal specimens and it is streaked with dusky. A female (no. 859) taken on April 18, 1893, has the chin and lower throat white with a dusky area in between. In the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology there is a specimen (no. 31349) of an immature female collected in the Moraga Valley, Contra Costa County, California, on November 9, 1919, which has the center of the throat white bordered by dusky malar stripes. These facts suggest that there is a normal genetic basis for white in the throat plumage of *atricapilla*. It seems probable that the white throat in this otherwise normal specimen of *atricapilla* is due, not to hybridization, but either to the chance coalition of a larger than usual number of mul-