Hirugbird Nest
1926

Nest found July 1 in a scrubby apple tree 15 ft. high, nest on a bough 8 ft. from ground, bough sticking out almost bare of leaves.

Nest 4" outer diameter, 3" inner diameter, 4" deep. Made of twigs, weed stems, leaves, plant fibers, and horsehair. A species of goldenrod could be identified. Bird using old last year flowers stalks.

Three eggs, white spotted with number.

Behavior of mother and father birds as follows.

As soon as the nest was found a bough was placed under the tree making it possible to look into the nest. As soon as mother bird heard an approach, she would fly off and either join the father bird who was in a tree nearby or on the fence or stay in the tree with
the nest. If I got up on to the box to look in both birds in turn would swoop down almost to my head and I was convinced that they were very good defenders of their nests. The male bird could only be distinguished from the female in that he seemed a little larger and when they were together in the tree the male seemed to make the most noise. On July 3 the mother bird was flushed from the nest and stayed off 21 minutes, flying from branch to branch. The male bird was not nearly as ever approached the nest but as soon as the female was flushed he appeared to defend. As soon as we left, the female bird returned to her nest and the father bird to his perch above the nest.
On July 7 we approached nest the mother was on the nest; the father bird was nowhere in sight; after awhile, the mother bird flew off and while she was gone the nest was examined and with a great fuss both birds appeared and circled around and around above the nest. We went behind a hay stack and the mother bird soon settled down on her nest. After a few minutes a crow appeared and the mother bird left nest and together with the male bird chased the crow, soon returned and both seemed perfectly satisfied.

Behavior the same each day mother often flew off far from the bird, going down closer to the nest but never on it. Mother bird would fly across the road and return wiped her bill on fence wire often staying.
there dashing out and back catching insects, then returning to her nest, then the male would fly off coming back in a few moments to take up the watch at the top of the tree.

On July 16 there was one baby bird and two eggs. On July 17 still only one young and two eggs — young had white down coming out.

The mother left the nest for food, father staying close nearby sitting at the edge of the nest. The returned, stopping to wipe her bill on the fence wire, flew to the edge of the nest and fed bird by regurgitation, soon after she returned the male bird flew away and while he was gone there appeared a red headed wood pucker which stopped near the nest. The male kingbird came when the female called and the male chased the woodpucker.
the road and into the woods. Men working in field did not disturb them. Only one young hatched and the two eggs remained in the nest until on July 27 the young had left with the parents and there was no sign of the eggs.

1. July 1 - eggs found 3, 5 days incubation
2. July 16 - ... hatched as far as known

Behaviour
1. Mother did entire feeding.
2. Both birds defend their next.
3. Male bird always perched in a position where leaves did not obstruct his view, and was keenly awake to every movement around him. Left perch every few minutes to dart out to seize insects. cured clasp at tip of bill.
4. Call - ching, ching, sometimes has a soft pleasing song, usually in early morning.
5. Characteristic flight widely spread tip quickly vibrating wing.