

Grackles (*Quiscalus quiscula*) using "sheltered boxes" at Davidson, Saskatchewan, but he gave no details of the box type. Bronzed Grackles have nested in a duck nest barrel at Regina, Saskatchewan, for the past several years, according to Fred W. Lahrman (see photo). This nest barrel has an opening 5 inches in diameter and is fastened about 14 feet above the ground to a pole which stands some 25 yards back from the edge of Wascana Creek. The barrel was originally set up by Fred G. Bard on his sanctuary to attract Golden-eye ducks (*Glaucionetta clangula*). Young Grackles fledged from a nest in this barrel about July 4, 1956. Nesting was also successful in 1955 as well as in several previous years. Other Grackles have frequently nested in the usual manner in a small grove of trees which reach to within 10 feet of the nest box. A report of the possible nesting of the Red-winged Blackbird

(*Agelaius phoeniceus*) in a birch house at Last Mountain Lake, Saskatchewan, has been published in the *Auk* (Nero, 1956, 73:284).—R. Nero, Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, Regina.



Photo by F. W. Lahrman
Bronzed Grackle nesting in duck nest barrel

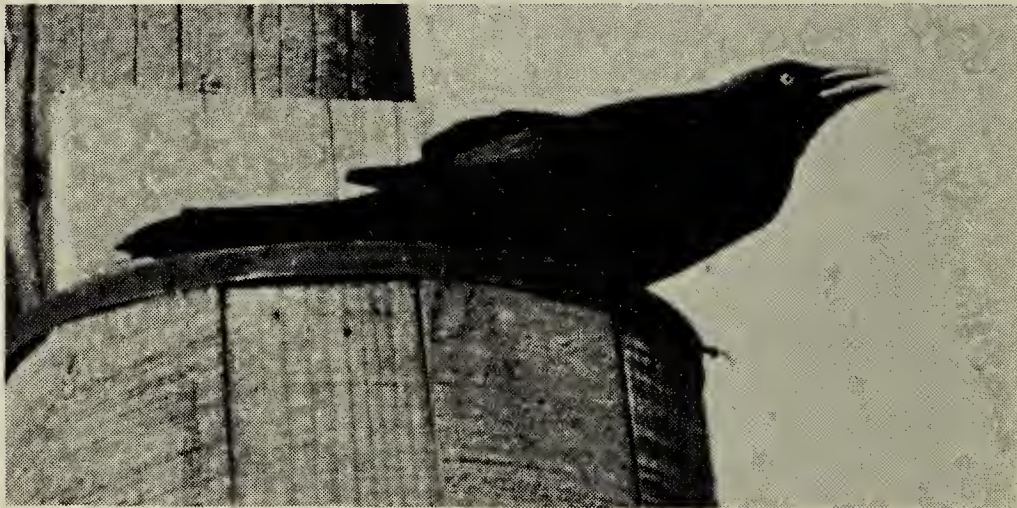


Photo by
F. W. Lahrman

Mourning Dove Information Wanted

A year ago the *Blue Jay* published a request from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service asking for assistance in banding Mourning Doves. Fred Bard, Director of the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History, has received a request again this year for co-operation in the project, from Harold S. Peters, Research Biologist of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who writes: "We would appreciate having your active assistance in this programme and hope you may induce other persons to band dove nestlings during this summer." For further particulars, see the *Blue Jay* (1956, 14:49).

In the southern part of its range the Mourning Dove is considered a game bird. In fact, it is the most im-

portant of all migratory game birds being harvested in greater numbers than all species of waterfowl combined. Since Mourning Doves are migratory, their hunting is regulated by the Federal Government, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is therefore interested in any information relevant to the management of the bird.

A five year project of dove nesting banding was inaugurated in 1956. It met with a fine response from game department personnel and interested members of the general public, North Dakota leading the nation in number of nestlings banded (3,634). The intensified dove nesting programme is being continued in 1957.