

Bent's (1950:154) description of a Loggerhead Shrike "hanging suspended in the air on rapidly vibrating wings" also applies well to the bird observed by us.

It is perhaps significant that our observation took place over an open field, away from trees or other high perches, where neither of the main hunting methods would be suitable. Although not previously described in the literature, the behaviour described above has also been observed in the Northern Shrike on New York wintering grounds and Alaska breeding areas (T. J. Cade, pers. comm., 1972). Similar hovering behaviour frequently is used over wide expanses of High Arctic tundra by Long-tailed Jaeger (*Stercorarius longicaudus*) (P. S. Taylor, pers. comm.), and over open fields by Roughlegged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*) and Sparrow Hawk (pers. obs.; see also Bent 1937:276; 1938:114; numerous other references).

#### Acknowledgments

I should like to thank Drs. Thomas J. Cade, Roger M. Evans, and Robert W. Nero for their comments on the manuscript, Peter J. Cowan for loaning the British literature to me, and Reto Zach for translating Thielcke's paper. Philip S. Taylor kindly added his observations on hovering by Long-tailed Jaegers.

#### LITERATURE CITED

- Bent, A. C. 1937. (Dover ed. 1961). Life histories of North American birds of prey. Part I. U.S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 167. 409 pp.
- Bent, A. C. 1938. (Dover ed. 1961). Life histories of North American birds of prey. Part II. U.S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 170. 482 pp.
- Bent, A. C. 1950. (Dover ed. 1965). Life histories of North American wagtails, shrikes, vireos, and their allies. U.S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 197. 409 pp.
- Cade, T. J. 1962. Wing movements, hunting, and displays of the Northern Shrike. Wilson Bull. 74:386-408.
- Cade, T. J. 1967. Ecological and behavioral aspects of predation by the Northern Shrike. Living Bird 6:43-86.
- Lawrence, A. G. 1926. A butcher from the northland. Chickadee Notes No. 250. Winnipeg Free Press, January 7, 1926.
- McNicholl, M. K. 1971. The breeding biology and ecology of Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*) at Delta, Manitoba. Unpubl. M.Sc. thesis, University of Manitoba. 652 pp.
- Mester, H. 1965. Feeding habits of the Great Grey Shrike in winter. British Birds. 58:375-383.
- Miller, A. H. 1931. Systematic revision and natural history of the American shrikes (*Lanius*). California Univ. Publ. in Zoology. 38:11-242.
- Thielcke, G. 1956. Zum Beuteverhalten des Raubwurgers (*Lanius excubitor* L.) und anderer Mausejager. Zeitschr. Tierpsych. 13:272-277.
- Zimmerman, D. A. 1955. Notes on field identification and comparative behavior of shrikes in winter. Wilson Bull. 67:200-208.

### PILEATED WOODPECKERS NEAR DRUMHELLER, ALBERTA

by **John E. Storer**, Provincial Museum and Archives of Alberta and **Michael Wilson**, Department of Geology, University of Wyoming

The Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) occurs, according to Salt and Wilk (*Birds of Alberta*, 2nd Ed., 1966), "mainly in the mountains and in the northern and western parts" of Alberta. The only sighting in southeastern Alberta known to the authors is that of Randall (*Can. Field-Nat.*, 60:123-131, 1946), who states that the Pileated Woodpecker is "An accidental and rare visitor in the fall" to the Brooks area. Thus sightings made in the Drumheller area may be of importance.

On July 6, 1971, the authors saw an adult Pileated Woodpecker (identified as a female by M. Wilson) foraging on the ground along a fallen log: close approach and easy identification were possible. On July 11, Storer saw two adults in a tree at a greater distance. Both sightings were made in a mature stream-bank stand of cottonwood at the Bleriot Ferry campground, about 10 miles northwest of Drumheller. Discussion with Mr. Lloyd Heaton, one of the ferrymen, revealed that the birds have been seen in the vicinity of the ferry for several years.

The presence of these birds at the Bleriot Ferry over several years may indicate a range extension for the Pileated Woodpecker. Whether the Pileated Woodpecker is spreading down the Red Deer River, apparently the easiest route from its optimal range, to the Drumheller area cannot be determined without additional sightings.