

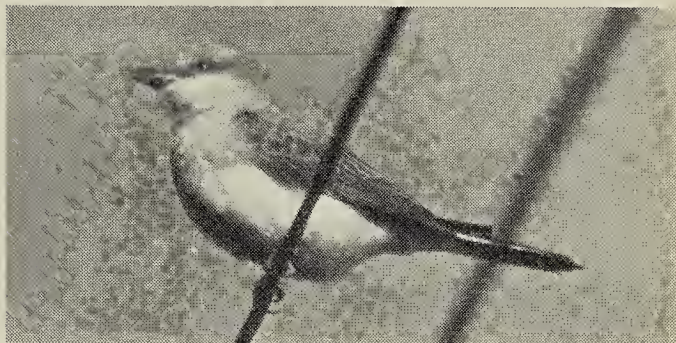
WESTERN KINGBIRD NESTING IN ABANDONED FARMHOUSE

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At midday on 22 June 1982, I visited an abandoned farmyard 2.6 km south and 1.6 km west of the village of Lyleton, Manitoba. I was pleased to see a pair of Say's Phoebes in the vicinity and entered the house hoping to find their nest. I did find several Barn Swallow and House Wren nests; the only indication of Say's Phoebe activity was an old nest on a shelf above the basement steps. The decrepit condition of the house prohibited a complete nest search. The second story of the house contained four rooms. In the middle of the northwest corner room was a ceiling lamp shade some 1.5 to 3 m from the outside wall. This semi-clear glass lamp shade was held to the ceiling by three strands of brass chain. Inside the lamp shade (the bulb being broken) was an active Western Kingbird nest with four large young. The glass in the room's upper west windowpane was intact; the adult birds twice escaped out the vacant lower window section. The south window, which did not contain glass, was accessible through an open doorway into the upper southwest corner room. The nest site was of interest because it was inside a building and because it was quite free, swinging easily to the touch. Brian Ratcliff, a co-worker, accompanied me on a return visit that evening, confirming the Western Kingbird nest with at least four young. Bent describes the Arkansas (Western) Kingbird as most adaptable in nest site selection, often choosing insecure situations.

BENT, A. C. 1942. Life histories of North American flycatchers, larks, swallows,

and their allies. U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 179
(Dover reprint, 1963).



Western Kingbird

F. W. Lahrman

XIX INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

At the XVIII International Ornithological Congress in Moscow the International Ornithological Committee accepted the invitation of the National Museum of Natural Sciences of Canada and of the Canadian ornithological community to hold the XIX Congress in Canada. The Congress will be held in Ottawa, Canada, from 22-29 June 1986. It elected Dr. Prof. Klaus Immelmann (West Germany) as President of the Congress. Dr. Henri Ouellet (Canada) was designated as Secretary-General.

Details about the general and scientific programs, field excursions, and other activities during the Congress will be available later.

Those interested in participating in the Congress are urged to inform the Secretariat in order to obtain announcements and application forms. Correspondence should be addressed to The Secretary-General, Dr. Henri Ouellet, XIX Congressus Internationalis Ornithologicus, National Museum of Natural Sciences, National Museums of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0M8.