On May 14, 1946, J. G. Smith captured a living individual of this species as it came aboard the cruiser U. S. S. Pasadena off the California coast. At the time the sparrow was discovered, the cruiser was fifty miles south of the Golden Gate and thirty miles off-shore. According to Smith, the bird came aboard in an exhausted condition and died just prior to the time the cruiser put into Los Angeles harbor. Smith gave the specimen to Mrs. Mary V. Hood of Los Angeles who in turn brought it to the Los Angeles Museum.

The specimen, an adult male (L. A. Museum Coll. 20332), was compared with a series of skins of *ochracea* from the collections of the Los Angeles Museum and the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and is definitely referable to this race.—KENNETH E. STAGER, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, September 1, 1946.*

Reactions of Cliff Swallows to a Buteonid Hawk.—On May 18, 1946, the author and four other bird students were observing a colony of Cliff Swallows (*Petrochelidon albifrons*) on the north-facing lava cliffs of Saw Mill Ravine at Cherokee, Butte County, California. The colony included several hundred birds, mostly busy at nest building. A large buteonid hawk flying by within about 100 feet of the cliffs caused considerable excitement among the birds. Their flight became more rapid and erratic and some swallows were seen to dive at the hawk, although none of them was actually seen to come in contact. The hawk alighted in a tree about 300 yards from the colony and the swallows followed to a position above the tree, where they milled around excitedly in a well defined spherical flock. They gradually quieted down and in about fifteen minutes were back to nest building. Half an hour later, a Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) was seen flying past within fifty or sixty feet of the cliffs, but none of the swallows exhibited concern. But an hour or so later, most of the swallows formed a milling flock above one of the observers who approached more closely to the nests than had others of the party.

The concern exhibited by the swallows over the presence of the hawk is at variance with the statement in Bent's "Life Histories of North American Flycatchers, Larks, Swallows and their Allies" (1942:480), that "the appearance of a hawk in the vicinity of a colony of Cliff Swallows never creates any evidence of excitement, . . ." However, it does not necessarily indicate that they recognized the species as an enemy. It is well known that the feeding habits of hawks varies with the situation, and this individual may have been recognized because of having previously attacked swallows.—J. BRUCE KIMSEY, *Chico, California, August 21, 1946.*

A New Flycatcher of the Genus Monarcha from the Bismarck Archipelago.—The widespread and variable flycatcher, *Monarcha cinerascens,* occurs as a common resident on small off-shore islands and along the coasts of larger ones from Timor around the north coast of New Guinea to the northern Solomon Islands. The species has been recorded from all parts of the Bismarck Archipelago and several subspecies have been separated in that region. It is not surprising, therefore, to find a well marked race inhabiting the hitherto ornithologically unexplored islet of Tench in the St. Matthias Group. This new race may be known as

Monarcha cinerascens tenchi, new subspecies

Type.—Adult male, no. 90235 Mus. Vert. Zool., from Tench Island, St. Matthias Group, Bismarck Archipelago, collected August 19, 1944, by Charles G. Sibley, orig. no. 2427.

Diagnosis.—Intermediate in tone of coloration between *M. c. perpallidus* and *M. c. impediens,* the abdomen of *tenchi* being Ochraceous Tawny (Ridgway, Color Standards and Color Nomenclature, 1912), that of *perpallidus* Cinnamon Buff, and that of *impediens* Sanford's Brown.

Range.—The island of Tench, located 30 miles east of Emirau Island in the St. Matthias Group, Bismarck Archipelago.

Specimens examined.—Two adults (male and female) from Tench have been compared with fourteen males and eleven females from Emirau and Mussau and with seven males and five females from Feni and Green islands. In addition, one female from New Hanover, one female from Watom, one male from Manus, and two males and one female from Ahu, Ninigo Group, have been examined.

The color of the abdomen of *tenchi* exactly matches that of the three specimens of *M. c. fulviventris* from Ahu, Ninigo Group. These two races are separable by differences in dimensions as shown in the table.

The single specimen from Manus, Admiralty Islands, agrees in coloration with those from Ahu although the bill is larger; it is tentatively referred to *fulviventris.* This is also true of the single specimen from Watom which resembles *fulviventris* in color but has an even larger bill than the specimen from Manus. The specimen from New Hanover has a smaller bill than any of the 25 adults from the St. Matthias Group, but it is possibly an immature bird. A summary of the characters of the forms examined is presented in the table. The color of the posterior underparts is designated by comparison with Ridgway (*op. cit.*) and also with Maerz and Paul (Dictionary of Color, McGraw-Hill Book Co.,

Name and locality		Wing	Tail	Bill from nostril	Color of posterior underparts
impediens	7 ♂ ♂	82.7-86.5	68.5-75.2	12.8-13.2	Sanford's Brown (R);
Feni-Green		(84.1)	(71.2)	(13.0)	Russet Brown, 14-I-12 (M and P)
	5 ♀ ♀	82.4-82.8	70.0-72.0	12.1-13.3	
		(82.5)	(70.7)	(12.7)	
fulviventris	2 ♂ ♂	86.7-90.6	75.5	13.9	Ochraceous Tawny (R);
Ahu, Ninigo		(88.6)			Peruvian Brown, 13-L-11
Group	1 ♀	87.0	75.3	13.3	(M and P)
Watom Island	1 ♀	89.6	77.4	15.1	As in *fulviventris*
Manus Island	1 ♂	89.8	76.3	14.5	As in *fulviventris*
tenchi					
Tench Island	1 ♂ (type)	82.3	70.7	13.0	As in *fulviventris*
	1 ♀	80.0	69.5	12.3	
perpallidus					
Emirau-Mussau	14 ♂ ♂	81.8-86.4	70.0-78.6	12.5-13.8	Cinnamon Buff (R);
		(83.2)	(73.8)	(13.2)	11-G-5 (M and P) = slightly
	11 ♀ ♀	78.0-84.4	68.5-74.8	12.1-13.4	lighter than Chamois
		(81.7)	(71.1)	(12.8)	

Inc., New York, 1930); measurements are in millimeters and averages are enclosed in parentheses. For the loan of comparative material, I wish to thank Dr. Ernst Mayr of the American Museum of Natural History and Mr. James L. Peters of the Museum of Comparative Zoology.—CHARLES G. SIBLEY, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, August 24, 1946.*

Occurrence of Mastiff Bat Remains in a Pellet of the Barn Owl.—In August, 1945, a small number of owl pellets was collected at Bee Rock, in the Hollywood Hills, Los Angeles County, California, by Mr. Peter M. Neely. This large rock contains, on its southern exposure, a number of small natural caves, in one of which the pellets were found. A study of these pellets seemed to indicate that they were regurgitated by the Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*), the species most frequently observed in the area.

Subsequent analysis revealed the presence of a nearly complete skull of the California Mastiff Bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*), by far the largest and strongest of North American bats. The presence of this species of bat had been recorded previously in this locality, a single individual having been observed in flight about one hundred yards from the rock.

From time to time, the remains of smaller bats of various species have been recorded from the pellets of the Barn Owl. However, the presence of this large, swift-flying mammal seemingly is unique in the diet of the Barn Owl. Due to the strong, swift flight of this bat, it is probable that the mammal was either captured while occupying one of the small caves, or that the individual was in poor physical condition.

Although bats form an extremely small portion of the food of the Barn Owl, the occurrence of a new article of food is of interest.—WILLIAM G. REEDER, *Los Angeles, California, August 19, 1946.*

Distributional Records from Humboldt County, California.—The following observations together with records of specimens seem noteworthy in the light of data summarized recently by Grinnell and Miller (Pacific Coast Avif. No. 27, 1944). Specimens were identified by R. T. Orr of the California Academy of Sciences, whose kind assistance is here acknowledged.

Philacte canagica. Emperor Goose. A male of this species was taken by a local hunter on December 3, 1942; it was shot in the Eureka ship channel of Humboldt Bay.

Micropalama himantopus. Stilt Sandpiper. On September 22, 1940, a male was collected near the Clarke Street Slough, Eureka, California.

Sterna hirundo hirundo. Common Tern. On October 6, 1924, two males were collected on Humboldt Bay.

Colaptes auratus borealis. Yellow-shafted Flicker. On January 16, 1945, a female was found dead on the highway about one mile south of Eureka, California, by Mrs. Vera Vietor.

Dryobates nuttallii. Nuttall Woodpecker. On February 14, 1946, one was closely observed at Benbow's in southern Humboldt County. The same individual was also seen by two other observers, Mr. W. Perrott and Mrs. V. Vietor, who noted it on three occasions; on the last occasion, the Nuttall Woodpecker was in company with a Downy Woodpecker, which gave the observers a good opportunity to compare the two forms. The locality of record is north and east of the usual range, being in the denser coastal redwood region.