

island has seldom been visited by biologists, and all published accounts of the avifauna record definitely only a few species of pelagic or aquatic birds. In recent years the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, La Jolla, California, has undertaken a biogeographical survey of Clipperton Island, and detailed reports on its biota will be published in the future. The present brief note records an instance of some interest to ornithologists.

From October 21 to 26, 1956, Wayne Baldwin, Museum Zoologist of the University of California, Los Angeles, visited Clipperton Island with a party from the Scripps Institution to make ichthyological collections. During his stay Mr. Baldwin obtained three specimens of land birds which he brought back preserved in formalin. He reported that small land birds were seen frequently on the island, which has now acquired considerable vegetation in the form of vines and various annuals as well as coconut palms. The birds were subsequently prepared as study skins and are in the Dickey Collection, University of California, Los Angeles.

The three birds are an unsexed Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*), a male Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*), and a female Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*). Subspecific identification of the latter is somewhat uncertain as formalin preservation may have affected plumage color, but the bird appears to represent the breeding population of the eastern United States (*P. r. rubra*). The two warblers are also species that breed principally in eastern North America. All three birds had double-layered skulls, and the Bay-breasted Warbler is certainly an adult as it has considerable deep chestnut coloring on the flanks. All three species are migrants and winter residents in Central and South America, but the presence of these "eastern" species (and other land birds) so far out in the Pacific is noteworthy. Although only sea birds are known to nest on Clipperton Island, it is possible that some species of land birds may become established as residents if suitable vegetation persists.—THOMAS R. HOWELL, *Department of Zoology, University of California, Los Angeles, California, August 26, 1958.*

Flamingo in a Southern California Slough.—At 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on July 22 and on August 18, 1958, an American Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) was seen in the shallows of the brackish water slough near the Sunset Beach Gun Club, one mile south of Los Patos (just south of Sunset Beach), Orange County, California. The solitary individual undoubtedly found its way to this location from either the Hollywood racetrack ponds, 25 miles away, or from one of several other possible domestically maintained flocks. This conspicuous bird will undoubtedly be viewed by other observers. This record is offered as a basis for future reference and to establish information about the ability of a flamingo to subsist on native fauna under natural conditions in California.

Although the bird was less than 100 yards from a heavily traveled highway (U.S. Highway 101 or Cabrillo Highway) its behavior indicated complete composure during all sightings. During the morning it was resting in the pose customary for this species—head nestled over the back and standing on one leg. In the afternoon the bird was actively feeding in the shallow water (0-3 inches). Associated with the flamingo in the afternoon feeding foray were several California and Ring-billed gulls, while a flock of Snowy Plovers rested on the adjacent sand flat.—ANDREAS B. RECHNITZER, *United States Navy Electronics Laboratory, San Diego, California, July 23, 1958.*

Subspecific Status of *Atlapetes brunnei-nucha* in South America.—In the series of some 400 skins assembled for my revisionary study of the Chestnut-capped Brush-finch, *Atlapetes brunnei-nucha* (Condor, 56, 1954:129-138) there were only five specimens from Perú. The characters of the Peruvian population of this species are of major importance, since Perú is the type locality of *Arremon frontalis* Tschudi, the name I revived for the population of *Atlapetes brunnei-nucha* of South America and eastern Panamá. I commented (*op. cit.*:136) on certain apparent color trends within South America, particularly noting certain peculiarities of the small Peruvian series.

Traylor (*Fieldiana: Zoology*, 35, 1958:137) has recently discussed the characters by which I distinguished *A. b. frontalis* from *A. b. brunnei-nucha* (Lafresnaye) of eastern México. On the basis of a comparison of "a long series from Vera Cruz of *brunnei-nucha*" and Peruvian material consisting of "a good series of fresh material from Marcapata, Cuzco, and . . . two males from Huánuco" (in all, 10 Peruvian specimens), Traylor claimed that the only character which could be used to distinguish the two forms was the color of the border of the crown (deeper yellow in *frontalis*). He stated that there are no differences in bill length; I wrote "bill averaging longer" in *frontalis*, and my table of measure-