

It would be a difficult matter to estimate the thousands of birds that every year meet their death through many natural causes.—RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago, Ill.*

Northern Shrike (*Lanius borealis*) near Santa Fe, N. Mex.—December 18, 1922, I had a very interesting meeting with a Northern Shrike, which, by the way, is the first of this species I have seen in New Mexico.

For some time I have been trapping and banding birds, and have been using for that purpose a regulation government sparrow trap. At three o'clock in the afternoon of the date above mentioned, I visited a trap I had set out, and saw that it contained two birds—one an Intermediate Junco; the other a House Finch. I could see this from a distance of a hundred feet; also I observed that a Shrike was fluttering around the trap trying to attack the imprisoned birds. I watched it for several minutes. Finally it flew away, seemingly disgusted with its fruitless quest. The smaller birds I left in the trap in the hope that they might again attract the Shrike.

One hour later I again visited the trap and found the Shrike had returned and was working as hard as ever to find a way of entering the trap. It finally succeeded. I ran immediately to the trap to make sure of capturing him; also of saving the other birds. Upon my arrival I found both of the smaller birds dead, even though the Shrike had not been in the trap more than thirty seconds. The Junco was crowded into a corner of the trap and bleeding freely around the head. The Finch was lying on its back near the center of the trap with no visible sign of violence.

It took some time to entice the Shrike into the gathering cage, as the bird was very wild. After banding it I took the following measurements: Length, 10.50; wing, 4.65; tail, 4.70; bill, .55;

I believe this to be a bird raised last season, notwithstanding the fact that it was somewhat oversize. The Shrike is now No. 108285.—J. K. JENSEN, *Santa Fe, N. Mex.*

***Phyllanthus czarnikowi* O.-Grant** **Synonymous with *P. bohn-dorffi* (Sharpe).**—In the *Revue Zoologique Africaine*, IX, 1922, pp. 381–383, Mr. D. A. Bannerman expressed some doubt as to the distinctness of the two African Babblers named above. The genus *Phyllanthus* is so strikingly sylvan in habits that I, too, had wondered whether one form could occur just along the northern border of the Congo forest, at Sassa, and another in the same forest, from the Uelle River to Mawambi and Beni in the Upper Ituri district.

The type specimen of *bohn-dorffi*¹ was stated by Ogilvie-Grant to be a young bird; so in 1921 I took an immature specimen of *Phyllanthus*, collected at Banalia on the Aruwimi River, to the British Museum for

¹ Sharpe, *Journ. Linn. Soc. London, Zoology*, XVII, 1884, p. 422. (Sassa, Niam-Niam).

comparison with the type of *bohndorffi*. There was no difference in the distribution of gray, blackish, and rufous on the head and throat; and although the crown of the type of *bohndorffi* was faintly lighter, the distinction was too slight to be of even subspecific nature. Other young birds in our collection from the Ituri forest are similar to that from Banalia.

Adult birds from both Uelle and Ituri basins have more black about the face than in the young, the centers of their crown feathers are darker, and the chestnut plumage of the body is darker and richer. *Phyllanthus czarnikowi* O.-Grant,¹ being based merely upon these adult characters, is not a recognizable form.—JAMES P. CHAPIN, *American Museum of Natural History*.

Another Calaveras Warbler in Colorado.—The writer collected a second specimen for Colorado of this Warbler (*Vermivora rubricapilla gutturalis*) on the banks of Pine Creek just above its junction with the South Fork of the South Platte River on September 17, 1922. This locality is the site of the old town of Nighthawk, Colo., and is situated about fifteen miles in an air line from the area in which the writer found the first specimen of this subspecies collected in the State.—W. H. BERGTOLD, *Denver, Colo.*

Mockingbird in Winter in Lake Co., Ohio.—A record of the Mockingbird was made by the writer on the afternoon of January 28, 1923, as it sat at the edge of a dense thicket of hawthorn. My only other record for Lake Co. was made September 14, 1919. The bird was comparatively tame and my observations were made close enough for the white eyelids to be distinctly seen.—E. A. DOOLITTLE, *Painesville, Ohio*.

The Identity of Gmelin's *Todus plumbeus*.—It is remarkable that the name *Todus plumbeus* used by Gmelin (*Syst. Nat.*, I, (1), 1788, p. 444) for a small bird with very distinctive markings should have remained unidentified for more than a century and a quarter.

Gmelin compiled his diagnosis directly from the description of the third species in the text of *Todus leucocephalus* in Pallas' 'Spicilegia Zoologica,' Tom. I, Fasc. VI, 1769, p. 17, citing in addition to this the Plumbeous Tody of Latham (*Gen. Syn. Birds*, II, 1782, p. 661). But Latham drew his description from the same source, so that, everything considered, *Todus plumbeus* Gmelin is based wholly upon the bird described by Pallas, the identity of which must also, therefore, be that of Gmelin's entry.

Pallas (*l. c.*) described from a specimen said to have come from Surinam whence, as he says, collections of birds were frequently received. The original text is as follows:

"*Aliam, huic ultimae [Todus cinereus Linné] affinem speciem Surinamo accepi, quae rostri magnitudine et figura ad amussim fig. A. modo adle-*

¹ Bulletin Brit. Orn. Club, XIX, 1907, p. 40 (Mawambi, Ituri).