

was decided to remove it. I kept the Warbler in the cage for the rest of the day, much to the disgust of the Canary, who was forced to occupy the smaller quarters.

The bird was very hungry and I procured an assortment of insects from a nearby field. It readily took this food from my fingers or from forceps. In spite of its hunger, however, it was extremely particular as to the type of food which it ate. It snapped at a garden snail but refused to eat it. The same thing proved true in the case of sow bugs and ground beetles. It readily accepted grasshoppers, flies and crickets, and in the evening ate a little bread which had been soaked in milk.

The most interesting feature about the actions of the bird was its behavior with large grasshoppers or crickets. Holding the insect firmly in the bill, the Warbler repeatedly beat it against the floor of the cage. The movement of the head while this performance went on was so rapid that my eyes could scarcely follow it. Whether such procedure is intended to kill insects that are too large to swallow or whether it is intended to break them into smaller pieces, I could not say. It may be a common act among Warblers, but I have never observed it in nature nor have I read anything concerning it.

The only note made by the bird was a very sharp, rather high-pitched "chip," uttered occasionally when it was in the smaller cage.

On the morning of the 15th a small flock of White-throated Sparrows, White-crowned Sparrows, and Myrtle Warblers was in the garden, so, against my ornithological desire to keep the Orange-crowned Warbler as a specimen, we liberated it. At first it seemed reluctant to go, remaining on the edge of the cage for several minutes, but upon hearing the notes of the other birds, it flew to the top of an apple tree and immediately commenced feeding among the leaves.—HOWARD L. MENDALL, *Department of Zoology, University of Maine, Orono, Maine.*

**On the Color of the Iris in the Western Cuban Grackle.**—When collecting in Cuba in 1900 with William Palmer, we found the Grackle (*Holoquiscalus jamaicensis caribaeus*) not uncommon in Pinar del Rio Province and during March and April the birds were all in adult plumage and with yellow irides. In the latter part of June we visited the Isle of Pines and one of the first Grackles shot, though in apparently adult plumage, had the irides brown. It was recorded on the label as hazel as we then thought the specimen was a new form. Later we saw adults with yellow irides and immature birds with brown irides, and reached the conclusion that all immature birds had the irides brown and that they assumed the adult plumage before the color of the eyes changed. This may explain some of the divergent views on the color of the eyes in the Boat-tailed Grackle and related forms that have been appearing in the literature in recent years. Unfortunately, Ridgway (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 50, pt. 2, 1902, p. 226) used the note on the color of the eye on the Isle of Pines' specimen in stating the color of the iris of the Cuban Grackle as hazel. My understanding of hazel at that time was not the hazel of Ridgway's 'Nomenclature of Colors,' but more of a raw umber. The color of the eye of the Cuban Grackle as given by Ridgway is erroneous for the form and should have been corrected long ago.—J. H. RILEY, *U. S. National Museum.*

**The Red Crossbill in Kansas:—A Correction.**—In the October, 1932, issue of the Auk (Vol. XLIX, p. 489) I reported the presence of the Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra pusilla*) at Lawrence, Kansas. The identification was based on specimens then in the University of Kansas Museum of Birds and Mammals. Since then W. S. Long, of this museum, and myself have had occasion to re-examine these and other Crossbills in the collection. It is evident from this examination that the original