

Herring Gull at Barbados.—On March 22, 1937, our steamer anchored in the harbor at Bridgetown in the early morning. After a forenoon ashore I returned to the ship at lunch time. For an hour during the afternoon I was intrigued at watching a ragged immature brown Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) flying about our ship and adjacent boats, picking up scraps of garbage in its utterly familiar manner. Presumably this individual must have followed some steamer far beyond the normal southern limits for the species, as according to Bond's 'Birds of the West Indies,' the Herring Gull is unrecorded from the Lesser Antilles.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.*

Saw-whet Owl in Lexington, Virginia.—On February 22, 1937, while crossing the Washington and Lee campus, Lexington, Virginia, my attention was arrested by a low quavering sound coming from a tree near the walk. I stopped at once to investigate the noise and I saw perched on a limb, near the trunk of the tree, a very small owl. The first thing I noticed was that it was much smaller than the Screech Owl and that it had no ear tufts. I secured a large flashlight and studied this little owl for some time. The sound can be best described by likening it to that produced by blowing quaveringly across the mouth of a bottle. As the owl flew from tree to tree I could see clearly the facial discs with the radiating lines from the eye. The head was large, wings long and the tail short with white spots in rows. The general color was ruddy and the large amount of whitish tone gave it a rather silvery appearance in the moonlight. The markings were more streaks than spots.

Reference to several standard books leads me to the conclusion that this was an Acadian or Saw-whet Owl (*Cryptoglaux acadica acadica*). This species was recorded at Blacksburg in 1912 (Smyth) and again at Charlottesville in 1936.—J. SOUTHGATE Y. HORT, *Washington and Lee Univ., Lexington, Va.*

Northern Pileated Woodpecker in Hamilton County, Ohio.—The late Dr. Frank W. Langdon ('A revised list of Cincinnati birds,' Journ. Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist., Jan., 1879) in listing the birds of Cincinnati in December, 1878, wrote of the Pileated Woodpecker (*Ceophloeus pileatus abieticola*): "A former resident. Not recently observed"; farther along in the pages of the same paper in a summary of ornithological changes in the then recent days, he says: "—and our two largest Woodpeckers (*Campephilus principalis* and *Hylotomus pileatus*) have disappeared along with the dense forests that were their favorite resorts."

My pleasure, therefore, in being able to report the recent occurrence of one of these great woodpeckers from southwestern Ohio may well be understood. On February 7, 1937, I drove four and one-half miles north of Cincinnati to the Federal Rehousing Project of Greenhills in Hamilton County, Ohio, where I intended to make a count of the nests in a Black-crowned Night Heron colony in a small beech woods on the east side of Winton Road which was included in the resettlement area. Hardly had I stepped from my car when I heard a Pileated Woodpecker calling from well within the woods. The calling came so suddenly and was so brief, I felt that I must have been wrong about its identity since it was not repeated again although I waited some fifteen minutes for a repetition. Finally deciding that I must have been misled by a Flicker's call, and more or less forgetting the incident, I walked back into the woodland, counted the heron nests, and returned to my car. Just as I was about to unlock the door the same call came again. This time there was no mistaking its identity or the spot from whence it came. I hurried back across the road and had just re-entered the woods when the Pileated Woodpecker called again and at the same time hitched itself around on my side of a beech stub not forty feet away.

With the aid of my binocular I could plainly see the scarlet stripe at the base of the lower mandibles, denoting a male bird. It hammered about on the stub for three or four minutes and then flew farther into the woods. I slowly walked after it, but could never again approach within less than one hundred feet of the tree it was in. Finally it flew westward out of the woods and out of my sight.—KARL H. MASLOWSKI, *Cincinnati Society of Natural History Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio.*

Status of *Mitrephanes phaeocercus pallidus*.—While examining certain flycatchers in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, my attention was drawn to the similarity between *Empidonax fulvifrons fusciceps* Nelson, and *Mitrephanes phaeocercus pallidus* Carriker and de Schauensee (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, vol. 87, p. 435, 1935). On closer examination the latter proves synonymous with the former.—RODOLPHE M. DE SCHAUSENSEE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Penna.*

American Magpie taken near Toledo, Ohio.—On May 9, 1937, while checking up on new bird arrivals in Jerusalem Township, Lucas County, Ohio, I met Mr. and Mrs. Fred Stearns and Mrs. H. C. Mitchell of Toledo, who informed me that they had just seen a magpie. After some searching, I found the bird feeding along the shore of Lake Erie and collected it. It proved to be a female American Magpie (*Pica pica hudsonia*) in good condition but with the primaries and tail feathers badly worn. The bird weighed 180.5 grams and the ovary measured 11 x 6.3 mm. As far as I can determine, this is the first specimen of this species ever taken in Ohio. The skin has been given to Ohio State Museum.—LOUIS W. CAMPBELL, *Toledo, Ohio.*

Southern Winter Wren in Virginia.—Though the Winter Wren is recorded in the fourth edition of the A. O. U. Check-list as breeding south in the mountains to Georgia, little has been published of its occurrence in summer in Virginia. Dr. W. C. Rives (Auk, vol. 6, p. 52, 1889) thought that an unidentified song heard during the latter part of July, 1888, near the summit of White Top Mountain was possibly this species. He did not succeed in seeing the bird, however, so that the record remains uncertain. In his 'Catalogue of the Birds of the Virginias' (Proc. Newport Nat. Hist. Soc., doc. 7, p. 89, 1890) he writes of this species that "it is probably to be found also in summer near the tops of the highest Virginia Mountains." Harold H. Bailey ('Birds of Virginia,' p. 331, 1913) says "they breed in Giles, Grayson and Washington Counties; probably others in Alleghanian Range."

In our work on White Top Mountain, Virginia, in June, 1936, we made search for Winter Wrens without finding them, and concluded finally that if present, they were rare and local since the woods of this mountain on the whole are too dry to offer them an agreeable habitat. Further search for these birds was one of the objectives of our visit during the first days of June, 1937, to Mt. Rogers, adjacent to White Top in Grayson County, Virginia. In our first search through the heavy woods over the summit of the mountain we failed to find Winter Wrens but on June 3 were more fortunate. Almost immediately on entering the woods we heard the low, sweet-toned, somewhat uncertainly phrased notes of the song of this species coming from dense tangles of fallen trees overgrown with brambles where the birds kept entirely concealed though often only a few feet away from us. After a careful stalk of over an hour we collected one specimen, a male. Search in the U. S. National Museum has revealed two more specimens secured on the summit of Mt. Rogers by Harvey Davis on July 7, 1903, during work for John W. Daniel, Jr., and presented to the Museum by the latter. These were two females, one adult, and the other a