

amined six of Austin's specimens now in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy and finds that ". . . they are the same as the Newfoundland form." He further states (in correspondence) that *nigrideus* is a "perfectly valid race whose characters are best developed in the Avalon peninsula of Newfoundland. It also ranges up the coast of Labrador." Austin's specimens, examined by J. L. Peters, are: female, Cartwright, July 16, 1928; juvenile, Mannack's Island, July 20, 1928; female and juvenile female, Hopedale, July 25, 1928; and two males, Nain Bay, August 4, 1928.—HAROLD S. PETERS, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Charleston, South Carolina*, and THOMAS D. BURLEIGH, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Baton Rouge, Louisiana*.

The Blue-winged Teal at Sea.—On November 27, 1940, I was on a steamer coming north through the Strait of Yucatán between Quintana Roo and Cuba. About four o'clock in the afternoon, while we were out of sight of land, a band of a dozen Blue-winged Teals (*Querquedula discors*) passed near at hand, travelling only a few feet above the water toward Cuba. The flock of ducks flew directly east with no hesitation as to their course. This line of flight was, to me, unexpected as I have been accustomed to think of it as one followed by some species through Florida and Cuba to the west in fall and in the reverse direction in spring. It seems strange that in November these ducks should have been moving confidently eastward at a time when the migratory impulse might be supposed to carry the flight in general in the opposite direction. I have been led to ponder whether this cross flight line between the coast of México and the West Indies may not be used by migrating birds of various species more extensively than has been supposed. It would afford an easy, mainly overland route for birds from the western half of North America around the Gulf of Mexico to the West Indies with only a short passage across open water.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Extension of breeding range of the Western Burrowing Owl in Saskatchewan.—When I arrived in the northwestern farming area of Saskatchewan in mid-July, 1943, I found my neighbors, Rufus and Gordon Brooks, interested in a strange bird they had found nesting on their wild-hay land about two and one-half miles south east of Livelong. From their description of the bird and its nesting site and den, it seemed very probable that it was a Burrowing Owl. It was, however, a new bird to them in that neighborhood and as I had had over twenty years summer residence and knowledge of the bird life of that territory without having seen this species there, I was interested to learn what it might be. A trip to the locality proved the nest to be that of a Burrowing Owl. It was in what appeared to be an old, unused badger or coyote den, upon a slight elevation above the broad, wild meadow which sloped away some miles southwestward. Here, during the month of August, an opportunity was afforded to observe the birds. Five young and two old birds comprised the family. At first, when too closely approached, the little ones would scurry down the burrow quite out of sight. Toward the end of the month they had grown sufficiently to wing away to neighboring knolls when they wished to do so.

On returning home and looking up the distribution of these birds, it appeared that this observation might furnish interesting data upon the northern extension of their nesting range; existing records are much farther to the southward. The Western Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia hypugaea*) appears to have its northern nesting range recorded as follows. Macoun ("Catalogue of Canadian