

for weeks before its discovery. Perhaps in migration it was deflected southeastward from Manitoba across Ontario. Records of this species in eastern Canada seem to be lacking.—STANLEY C. BALL, *Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.*

A Whistling Swan in Cuba.—An adult male Whistling Swan, *Cygnus columbianus* (Ord), was taken December 17, 1944, near the Río Tumbadero and the Arroyo de los Horconcitos in the Ciénaga de Zapata, Cuba. There is no question as to the identification, because of the yellow spots on the lores and because of the distance from the eye to the nostril, which is much greater than that from the nostril to the point of the bill. This is the first record of the species for Cuba and for the West Indies. The specimen is preserved in the Museo Poey of the University of Habana.—ABELARDO MORENO, *Universidad de la Habana, Habana, Cuba.*

The White-fronted Goose in New Jersey.—The White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) is an extremely rare migrant on the Atlantic seaboard of the United States and specimens or authentic sight-records are few. From the coast of New York State (Long Island) there are reports of single specimens collected from Great South Bay in 1846, at Islip in 1849, at Montauk in 1872, and at Sag Harbor in 1889. To these may be added Helme's record of a flock of eleven seen at Miller Place in 1883. Two inland reports complete the published records for the state; one is a note of the presence of these geese on Chautauqua Lake in 1881 and the other of a specimen killed on Lake Champlain in 1943. From the New Jersey coast there have been but two occurrences reported: one, a single bird at Beach Haven Point in November, 1926 (Griscom), and the other, two White-fronts flying with a flock of Brant over Barnegat Bay in November, 1928 (Urner and Edwards). An addition to these New Jersey records may be of interest.

On November 16, 1945, we were walking south along the beach on the ocean side of Beach Haven Point, New Jersey, when we noticed a small flock of geese approaching from the north, flying just within the line of the surf at a height of about 75 feet. As soon as our glasses were on them we eliminated the possibility of the two common species and, as they flew directly over our heads, the speckled breasts and the characteristic head-markings of the adults showed them to be White-fronts. The flock consisted of five birds, two in adult plumage and three in the plumage of the immature of this species. An adult bird led the little flock. The sun was just setting and its light seemed to give a rosy tinge to the breasts of the adults as they passed low over our heads and swung around the Point, seeking the protection of the bay for the night.—MABEL M. AND C. K. NICHOLS, *Ridgewood, N. J.*

Burrowing Owl in Ohio.—My brother Norman called my attention to a small, fast owl along an open ditch southwest of Payne in Paulding County, Ohio, during the early part of October, 1944. It insisted upon roosting along the bare bank of a ditch that had been enlarged by a dredge a short time previously. On four occasions it was seen sitting on the bare bank of the ditch. Two attempts were made to secure it with a 40-gauge shot gun and both times it could have been shot at a distance of 40 feet. However we did not shoot it as it would have been ruined for a specimen. After flushing, it seemed very shy and would fly a considerable distance out in the harvested soy-bean fields where it tried to conceal itself under bunches of soy-bean straw. It did considerable walking. It was observed at one of its roosting places beside a four-inch tile where this drained into the open ditch. There on October 21 I collected eleven pellets of varying sizes. The pellets contained some fur but several

seemed to be composed principally of elytra of beetles and legs and wings of grasshoppers and crickets. A mental image of the owl matched up very well with Audubon's plate of a Burrowing Owl. I was impressed by the owl's falcon-like speed as it dashed down to alight on the bank of the ditch. While I have seen but three Saw-whet Owls in this region, they were observed in thickets and woodland. The pellets will be sent to some expert for determination of contents.—HOMER F. PRICE, *Payne, Ohio*.

Additions to the Florida list.—Western Burrowing Owl (*Speotyto cunicularia hypugaea*).—A specimen of this form was secured at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida, December 15, 1944, by Lt. Donald E. Stullken, USNR. Subspecific identification was verified by Dr. Alexander Wetmore and the skin is now in the collection of the U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

Lt. Stullken, to whom I am indebted for the privilege of recording this occurrence, writes: "This bird was caught alive . . . [It] died a short time after it was brought in, apparently from some kind of poison. Examination of the stomach revealed several cockroaches which may have been the source of this poison." The bird was caught on the edge of the barracks area of the Naval Air Station on a bare flat of white sand sparsely dotted with clumps of coarse grass and stunted evergreen oaks. Lt. Stullken, who had had no opportunity to acquaint himself with the normal bird life of the region, is to be congratulated upon his initiative in preserving the specimen as an item of possible interest, in making the stomach examination and in recording the details of capture.

The Pensacola region lies between the normal ranges of the two North American forms of the Burrowing Owl, *S. c. hypugaea* and *S. c. floridana*. Howell (Florida Bird Life: 294, 1932) records the Florida form only from the Peninsula, with the most northerly occurrence about 300 miles east of Pensacola. The western form is known to occur with some regularity in southern Louisiana, extending its winter range as far east as the coast of Mississippi to a point about 150 miles west of Pensacola (Burleigh, The Bird Life of the Gulf Coast of Mississippi, Occ. Papers Mus. of Zool., La. State Univ., No. 20: 389, Dec. 30, 1944). Howell (Birds of Alabama: 155, 1924) records a Burrowing Owl taken by him on February 3, 1912, on Blakely Island, Alabama (about 50 miles west of Pensacola) and referred by him to the western form. Later, Bent (Life Histories of N. A. Birds of Prey, Pt. 2, U. S. Nat. Mus., Bull. 170: 396, 1938) refers Howell's Blakely Island specimen to *S. c. floridana*, an opinion that is concurred in by Dr. J. W. Aldrich, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (*in litt.*).

In view of the Gulf Coast distribution summarized above, a Burrowing Owl reported to me by Mr. Frank Bray at the Pensacola Municipal Airport, October 11, 1940, and seen by me and others of a party of observers on October 12 and on subsequent dates, could have been of either the western or the Florida form, with probability favoring the former. Unfortunately, it was not practicable to collect the specimen.

Ash-throated Flycatcher (*Myiarchus cinerascens cinerascens*).—A specimen of this species, taken on Town Point on the south side of Pensacola Bay opposite the city of Pensacola, Florida, December 24, 1944, was identified for me by Dr. John W. Aldrich, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This is, so far as can be discovered, the only recorded occurrence of this species east of Colorado and central Texas.

The bird was found by a party of observers (Lt. E. J. Koestner, USNR, and others) engaged in making the annual Christmas Bird Count for Audubon Magazine. They were able to follow the bird around for some minutes, observe its manner of feeding,