

## GENERAL NOTES

**The type locality of the Olive Warbler.**—Dr. John T. Zimmer has recently (Auk, 65: 126–127, 1948) called attention to the fact that *Sylvia olivacea* Giraud is preoccupied and must be replaced by *Sylvia taeniata* Du Bus as the species name of the Olive Warbler. However, as to the type locality I do not believe Dr. Zimmer's designation of "San Pedro, Oaxaca" is correct.

My own examination of the type of *Sylvia taeniata* Du Bus at the Royal Natural History Museum at Brussels in July, 1939, is in substantial accord with the determination by Delacour and Verheyen (Zimmer, *l. c.*) and there can be little doubt of the subspecific identity of the type. The chief point of divergence is that while they considered the type as "greatly faded" my own rather detailed notes consider it as slightly faded but not to an extent as to obscure the color characters. I set forth the data concerning this type in the Wilson Bulletin (54: 212–213, 1942) and on that basis Brodtkorb (Auk, 61: 404, 1944) has designated San Cristóbal, Chiapas, as a logical type locality for *Sylvia taeniata* as well as for *Cyanocorax unicolor* Du Bus.

Since Dr. Zimmer obviously has overlooked both of the items above referred to it is not unlikely that others have done the same and such probability has prompted the present note.<sup>1</sup>—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *University of California, Los Angeles.*

**Note on the identity of *Cuculus cornutus* L.**—In his *Systema Naturae*, ed. 12: 171, 1766, Linnaeus named a bird *Cuculus cornutus*, basing his description on "Atingacu camucu" of Marcgrave (1648, p. 216) and the accompanying woodcut. In later years, Linnaeus's name has been discarded altogether, after Cabanis and Heine [*Museum Heineanum*, 4 (1): 89, footnote, 1862] had judged it to be founded on an artefact. This, however, is not so. The original painting which served as a model to the carver is still preserved in the State Library of Berlin (Lib. pict. A. 33) and has been examined by the late Adolf Schneider and myself in 1937. It unmistakably shows a specimen of *Piaya cayana* with several of its crown feathers standing upright. The disorderly position of these feathers apparently fascinated the painter (A. van den Eeckhout), and was later utterly misinterpreted by his copier, the engraver who transformed them into a horn-like structure. This has already been pointed out by my friend Schneider (*Jour. für. Orn.*, 86: 98, 1938), who, however, overlooked the fact of Marcgrave's "Atingacu camucu" having been named by Linnaeus. The north-Brazilian *Piaya cayana pallescens* Cabanis and Heine will thus have to stand as *Piaya cayana cornuta* Linnaeus; type locality, Pernambuco.—ERWIN STRESEMANN, *Zoological Museum, Berlin, Germany.*

**Male Hudsonian Chickadee feeds mate in mid-air.**—On June 10, 1947, Walter Tholen and I were pulling a boat from Fishing Lake into a beaver pond near the cabin in which we were staying about 75 miles north of Nipawin, Saskatchewan, when we frightened a female Hudsonian Chickadee (*Parus hudsonicus hudsonicus*) from a small, dead white birch (*Betula*). She scolded us with many *Dee-dee-dee-dee* calls and flew from one neighboring willow to another. The stub was about 15 cm. in diameter and the opening, made by the chickadees themselves, was about

<sup>1</sup> Van Rossem (1942) stated that Bonaparte was in error in saying that the type of *Sylvia taeniata* Du Bus came from San Pedro, Oaxaca, as claimed by Bonaparte (1850). Nevertheless, he offered no evidence in support of that statement. I did not designate San Pedro as type locality but accepted Bonaparte's statement at face value. He may have obtained direct information from Du Bus as I suggested in my article, or from Ghiesbreght, the collector of the type. I am quite willing to accept Brodtkorb's later amendment if Bonaparte was wrong, but until this is proved, Bonaparte has some ninety-six years priority over Brodtkorb.—J. T. ZIMMER.