

from all angles in excellent light and in many postures including that of singing. The observations were made principally from the crest of a shallow gully while the bird was feeding over the stream running through the hollow. At times it was at the eye level of the observers, at times below it, and at other times in tops of small trees which, growing from the bottom of the gully, reached their maximum height slightly above eye level. The bird was occupied mostly in searching for food in the deliberate manner characteristic of vireos and was seen to capture one large green worm about an inch long from the under side of a newly opened leaf. Attention was first attracted to the bird by hearing a part of its song which led the observers to suspect that they had perhaps heard a weak outcry from a Crested Flycatcher. Very shortly thereafter the bird was first observed; the light yellow Flanks were particularly prominent as it turned in the sun. The upper parts may be described as olive green, shading towards brownish gray on the head and showing two light-colored wing-bars. Under parts and breast were washed with yellow but not as bright in tone as the flanks. Throat grayish white; eye dark. Under certain light conditions a light line through the eye was perceptible but not clearly defined. The iris was so dark as to appear black.

Towards the close of the observation the bird perched on an exposed twig and uttered a brief explosive song, the first syllables of which were barely audible, although the throat could be seen to vibrate. Following the half-audible opening notes, the song broke into a whistle not unlike the sound made by a toy steam engine when for a brief moment the valve is opened. The song then died away in a few weak sputterings. At the conclusion of the performance the bird flew farther downstream and the observers felt that no further gain was to be anticipated by following it.—REUBEN J. ROSS, FRANCIS A. YOUNG, AND JOHN A. YOUNG, *Willon, Connecticut*.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in the Chicago area.**—On May 3, 1947, a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*) was identified by Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Campbell and Mrs. Amy G. Baldwin at Wolf Lake, Indiana, about a quarter of a mile from the Illinois state line. This bird was watched for half an hour, frequently at distances of not more than 25 and 30 feet. While it was feeding on flies, over a cinder fill adjacent to the lake, ample opportunity was afforded to observe the long tail as well as the pink sides and under lining of the wings, when the wings were being folded. This flycatcher was present next day and was seen by seven other members of the Chicago Ornithological Society, including the writer. A heavy gale had been blowing from the south on May 3 and may have assisted this bird in its wanderings north and east of its normal range. This appears to be the third record for the Chicago area. One was seen at La Grange, Cook County, Ill., April 22, 1902 (Craigmile) and the other was seen in Lincoln Park, Chicago, on May 20, 1933 (Dreuth).—KARL E. BARTEL, 2528 W. Collins St., *Blue Island, Illinois*.

**The names of the Chilean parrots.**—In the central part of Chile there are three recognized species of parrots. These three species were first described and named by Molina in 1782 (4).

At the present time all three of Molina's names for these birds have been discarded by ornithologists. The inaccuracy of the descriptions is the principal reason for their not being retained. The late Dr. Charles E. Hellmayr in his book 'The birds of Chile' (3), in speaking of *Microsittace ferruginea minor* Chapman (*Psittacus jaguilma* of Molina), says (note, page 258): "The diagnosis, '*macrurus viridis, remigibus apice fuscis, orbitis fulvis*,' is too indefinite to permit of final conclusion, and the name is better dropped as undeterminable."

Referring to *Enicognathus leptorhynchus* (King), he says (note, page 257): "While admitting that *Psittacus choraesus* of Molina . . . might have been intended for the present species, I do not see how the description, '*Brachyurus viridis, subtus cinereus, orbitis incarnatis*,' can be reconciled with its characters."

Concerning *Cyanoliseus patagonus byroni* (J. E. Gray), he says (note, page 255): "It is quite possible, as has been intimated by Barros (Rev. Chil. Hist. Nat., 24: p. 151), that Molina . . . when naming *Psittacus cyanolysios*, had the present species in mind. His description, however, is so faulty that I hesitate to accept the name in the place of Gray's term, which is of unquestionable pertinence."

Deautier and Steullet (2) say: "We believe it impossible, at the present time to establish with certainty the relation of *Psittacus choraes* to the Psittaciformes actually known."

It is evident that the above mentioned authors considered carefully Molina's descriptions and found them so extremely inaccurate that it was well-nigh impossible to reconcile them definitely with the species as we know them. If one takes into account only Molina's descriptions as given in the Methodical Table following the text, then all that has been said concerning the different species is entirely correct and the discarding of the names would certainly be justified; but along with the descriptions we should make a careful study of the text in which the author discusses each species separately.

Before passing judgment on the names used by Molina and whether or not the descriptions actually are correct in every detail, we should consider the circumstances under which the 'History of Chile' was written. First of all we should remember that Molina was an exile from his native land. He had no collections of skins or mounted birds from which to make his descriptions and in all probability they were made entirely from memory. The 'History' did not appear until fifteen years after the author left Chile. We should also remember that at the time the 'History' was written there existed none of the present-day standards of accuracy for scientific descriptions.

It is a general rule, I believe, in considering cases of this kind, that if the species intended by the author can be established beyond reasonable doubt, the original name should be retained.

I am not a Latin student and for the present study I will omit entirely the descriptions of the different species. Had Molina given no descriptions at all, we would have no difficulty in determining to which of the present known species each of Molina's names refers.

In writing of these birds in the text, Molina says (page 211, English edition): "There are three different kinds of parrot in Chili, one of which is constantly to be found in the country, but the other are birds of passage. The first species, called *Thecau* (*psittacus cyanolysios*) is a little larger than a common pigeon. . . . Those which are migratory are the *choroi* and the *jaguilma*. I call them migratory, from their inhabiting the Andes in summer, and not appearing in Chili until the winter. . . . The upper part of the body of the *choroi* (*psittacus choraesus*) is a beautiful green, . . . . The *jaguilma* (*psittacus jaguilma*) is entirely green except the edges of the wings, which are brown."

Molina here has given the common names of the three parrots as used in his time. Along with these he has given something of the habits of each one, their abundance, etc., which I have not quoted.

The same three species are still found in central Chile today. None is as abundant as in Molina's time, but most of what he says concerning their habits is true at the

present time. The common names given by Molina are practically the same as those used by the Araucanian Indians in central Chile today. The "Thicau" of Molina is today *Tricau*, the "Jaguilma" is *Raguilma*, and the "Choroi" is still called by that name.

When I first came to Chile in 1902, direct from college and with no special preparation in ornithology, it was my good fortune to spend ten years as an agricultural missionary teacher among the Araucanian Indians. I learned something of their language and really specialized in getting the native names of birds, mammals and plants. At that time the only book I had which gave me any clue to the scientific names of the birds was Molina's 'History of Chili' in English. Knowing the Indian names of the birds, I had no difficulty whatever in recognizing the three species of parrots.

One of the reasons for so easily recognizing them was the fact that Molina, in giving the Latin names, saw fit to retain the common names of two of these parrots as the specific names. The Choroi he called *Psittacus choraesus* and the Jaguilma was *Psittacus jaguilma*. Nothing could be clearer as to the species he intended to name.

This use of the native names for the scientific names of the species described is to me elemental, but it has been completely overlooked or ignored by those discussing Molina's names of these birds. There is no doubt whatever in my mind as to which birds Molina intended to carry the names he gave.

In view of the above I see no reason why Molina's names for all of the three species should not be retained.

The "Tricau," *Psittacus cyanolysios* of Molina became the type for the genus *Cyanoliseus* of Bonaparte. (1) It now becomes *Cyanoliseus cyanolysios* Molina.

Peters and Blake (6) have shown that the other two species now known as *Enicognathus leptorhynchus* (King) and *Microsittace ferrugineus* (P. L. S. Müller) really constitute a single genus, *Enicognathus*.

The species *Enicognathus ferrugineus* P. L. S. Müller has two subspecies, the central form described first by Molina and the southern form described by P. L. S. Müller in 1776 (5), prior to Molina's description.

The four species and sub-species then stand as:

*Cyanoliseus cyanolysios* (Molina), the "Tricau," Chilean Paroquet.

*Enicognathus choraesus* (Molina), the "Choroy," Slender-billed Paroquet.

*Enicognathus ferrugineus ferrugineus* (P. L. S. Müller), "Catita Austral," Tierra del Fuego Paroquet.

*Enicognathus ferrugineus jaguilma* (Molina), the "Catita chilena," Small Chilean Paroquet.

#### LITERATURE CITED

1. BONAPARTE, C. L.  
1854. Tableau des Perroquets. Rev. Mag. Zool., (2) 6: 145-158 (150).
2. DEAUTIER, ENRIQUE A., AND STÉLLET, ALFREDO B.  
1929. Las aves descritas por Molina. Rev. Chil. Hist. Nat., 33: 473-482 (479).
3. HELLMAYR, CHARLES E.  
1932. The birds of Chile. Field Mus. Nat. Hist., Zool. Ser., 19 (Publ. 308).
4. MOLINA, JUAN IGNACIO  
1782. Saggio sulla storia naturale del Chili. (Bologna.)
5. MÜLLER, P. L. S.  
1776. Natursystem, Supplement: 75.
6. PETERS, JAMES L., AND BLAKE, CHARLES H.  
1948. *Microsittace* not different generically from *Enicognathus*. Auk, 65 (2): 288-289.  
—DILLMAN S. BULLOCK, *El Vergel, Angol, Chile.*