

strong resemblance of the plumage of both species of *Conothraupis* to some of the seedeaters, notably to *Sporophila luctuosa*. Zimmer (*loc. cit.*) also expressed uncertainty as to whether *Conothraupis* belonged among the finches or the tanagers, whereas Hellmayr (*loc. cit.*) believed *C. speculigera* to be "nearly related to *Lamprospiza melanoleuca*."

In my opinion, the systematic position of *Conothraupis* and of several other "tanagrine" genera, including *Schistochlamys*, *Cypsnagra*, *Neothraupis*, *Nemosia*, *Cissopis*, and *Lamprospiza*, remains to be determined. Of the genera listed among the tanagers by Hellmayr, *Conothraupis* seems to me closest to *Schistochlamys* and *Neothraupis*, whereas close relationship to *Lamprospiza* seems to be precluded by the brightly colored bill, pointed wings, pattern of sexual dimorphism, and rather high gloss of the black in the plumage of that genus.—ROBERT W. STORER, *The University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan.*

Arctic Loon at Palm Beach.—An Arctic Loon (*Gavia arctica*) was found dead on the causeway to Ibis Island on 21 November 1959 by the writer. The short, straight bill and the small size of the body aroused the suspicions of Mr. Robert Cointepoix, Mrs. Roberta Knight, and the writer. Mr. Cointepoix collected and mailed the head and a foot to Dr. Alexander Wetmore, who identified the bird as this species and stated that the subspecies could not be ascertained by this head and foot. Dr. Wetmore retained the remains, which have been assigned No. 431142 in the Division of Birds, United States National Museum. This specimen appears to be the first record in Florida and the first south of Long Island on the Atlantic Coast.—H. P. LANGRIDGE, *1421 W. Lantana Avenue, Lantana, Florida.*

Northern Waterthrush Returning to Same Winter Quarters in Successive Winters.—In the course of trapping and banding resident forest birds in the Northern Range of Trinidad, we have caught a small number of winter visitors and have banded them with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service bands. In the winter season 1958–1959 we banded four Northern Waterthrushes (*Seiurus noveboracensis*). One of these (band No. 61–70604), caught on 10 December 1958, was recaptured on 23 December 1959, in a mist net in the identical position in which it had been caught the year before. Wing length and weight were recorded as 74 mm., 15 gm., on the first occasion and 73 mm., 15 gm., on the second occasion.

Northern Waterthrushes arrive in Trinidad in September and leave in April. They are probably fairly sedentary when they have settled down; we have had two cases of recaptures in the same winter, at intervals of 53 and 136 days. They live solitarily, mainly along streams. We have no evidence that they defend territories, but they may well do so as such observations are difficult to make in the forests in which they live. A bird was heard singing once, on 12 April.

Wing lengths of birds trapped in the Northern Range of Trinidad range from 73 to 79 mm. Weights range from 14.5 to 18 gm. (mean of 12, 16.2 gm.), but one bird, trapped on 17 October 1958, on Chacachacare, an arid island off the northwest corner of Trinidad, and obviously newly arrived from the north, weighed only 13 gm.

As far as we know, no northern migrant wintering in the tropics has up until now been proved by banding to return to the same wintering area in successive years, although from their known navigational ability it might have been guessed that they do so. Recoveries of bands from the tropics are few and are almost

always associated with the death of the bird.—D. W. SNOW and B. K. SNOW, *New York Zoological Society's Tropical Field Station, Simla, Arima Valley, Trinidad, West Indies.*

***Arenaria interpres interpres* in Florida.**—On 8 June 1959 the authors collected a female Ruddy Turnstone at Shell Point, Wakulla County, Florida, as a routine part of a study of boreal-breeding shorebirds present in this area during summer. Examination of the specimen showed it to differ markedly from other turnstones taken during the study by its exceptionally dark back. Comparison with descriptions of the American and European subspecies by Bent (USNM Bull. 146, 1929) and Witherby *et al.* ("Handbook of British Birds," Vol. 4, 1940) indicated that it might be of the European race.

The specimen was later examined by Bernard Feinstein of the United States National Museum and Kenneth C. Parkes of the Carnegie Museum (the authors gratefully acknowledge their generous assistance), both of whom diagnosed it as *A. i. interpres*.

This specimen apparently constitutes the southernmost record of *A. i. interpres* for the eastern coast of the Western Hemisphere. Bent (*op. cit.*, 294) cites a record from Monomoy Island, Massachusetts. A turnstone taken on Dewees Island, South Carolina, in 1918, was reported to be of the European subspecies, but was later reidentified as *A. i. morinella* by Chamberlain (Auk, 53: 441).

The present specimen (No. 2880.2a) has been deposited in the museum of the Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.—HORACE LOFTIN, *Department of Biological Sciences, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida,* and STORRS OLSON, *Tallahassee, Florida.*

Storm Damage and Renesting Behavior by the Chimney Swift.—Nearly every year that Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*) have nested in air shafts on the buildings of Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, a few nests have been destroyed by storm damage before nesting was completed. Details of certain such accidents have been published by the writer (Auk, 69: 289–293, 1952). In the season of 1959 storm damage was unusually severe, and in addition to the usual behavior of Chimney Swifts when such accidents occur, two pairs renested following the loss of the original nest. In another case, a nest fell from the wall for reasons not known, and it, too, was replaced by another nest. These replacements were among the few such instances observed in this nesting colony under observation annually since 1944. Following is a brief account of each case illustrating the types of behavior among Chimney Swifts when their nests are destroyed.

The same pair of birds that nested together in shaft A1 in 1958 returned to that shaft in the spring of 1959. They began nest construction on 20 May, and the nest was completed four days later. A visiting bird joined the pair at this time and remained with them for most of the season. The first egg was laid on 27 May and was followed by three others two days apart. A fifth egg was discovered on 7 June. All three birds took turns incubating the eggs, but the parents much more so than the visitor. On 21 June the first egg hatched. Within a week three others had hatched. On 5 July a heavy rainstorm washed the nest from the wall. Three of the nestlings survived the fall, and the parent birds with their seasonal visitor continued to feed and care for them. Gradually they worked their way up the wall over a distance of some 41 feet and finally arrived at about the level where the nest had been attached, 7.5 feet from the top. Two of the three juveniles were captured for banding.