

specimen taken in continental North America. All of the others are sight records except for a female taken by Barton W. Evermann on St. Paul Island, Alaska, in 1911.—ROBERT T. ORR, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, and University of San Francisco, California.*

Purple Galinule Strays to Southern California.—On 1 October 1961 Mrs. J. B. Dalton found a strange bird that had been injured by flying into an overhead wire on Trieste Drive on the west side of Point Loma, San Diego, California.

The bird died during the night of 2 October and was presented to the San Diego Society of Natural History. It proved to be a young female Purple Galinule *Porphyryula martinica* and is now No. 30289 in the Society's collection. This specimen represents the westernmost occurrence of this species to date and a new bird to California.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego Society of Natural History, Balboa Park, San Diego, California.*

Parasitic Jaeger in Louisiana.—On 14 January 1962, I collected an immature female Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*) near the entrance of Calcasieu Pass, Louisiana (lat 29° 44.6' N, long 93° 20.5' W) approximately one and one-half km offshore. During the three hours we (I was accompanied by William Post, Jr., and John von Stade) remained in the area, two other jaegers (*Stercorarius* sp.) were observed, but neither was identified specifically. The specimen, the first of the species for Louisiana, has been placed in the Louisiana State University Museum of Zoology.—LOVETT E. WILLIAMS, JR., *Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Lake City, Florida.*

Cattle Egret Expands Range.—On 25 November 1961 the Research Vessel *Argo* of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, La Jolla, California, collected a specimen of *Bubulcus ibis* between Cocos Island and Clipperton Island (6° N lat, 97° W long) approximately 920 km (570 miles) west of the Central American mainland. This bird flew aboard the *Argo* during the night of 24 November 1961 and refused to leave. On 1 December this bird was presented alive to the San Diego Zoological Garden. It has been placed on exhibit in the Scripps Walk-through Flying Cage containing shore and wading birds.—KENTON C. LINT, *Zoological Society of San Diego, San Diego, California.*

Plumage in Spotted Munia (*Uroloncha punctulata*).—Plumage pigmentation controlling mechanisms in birds ranges from complete genic to purely hormonal. (For a complete review, see Emil Witschi, pp. 146–168, in *Biol. and Comp. Physiol. of Birds*, Vol. II, Ed. A. J. Marshall, Academic Press, 1961.) In two species of Indian Finches, viz., Lal Munia (*Amandava amandava*) and Common Weaverbird (*Ploceus philippinus*), plumage changes in response to the pituitary hormones. In the Spotted Munia (*Uroloncha punctulata*) such changes appear to be genetically determined. The Spotted Munia is a small finch (of the Ploceidae family), distributed practically all over India (Salim Ali, *The Book of Indian Birds*, Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc., 1945, p. 136), and, in this species, there is no sexual dimorphism. Adult birds are chocolate brown in color, and the rump and breast feathers are prominently barred with black bands. Juveniles have dull-brown plumage and are without any pigmentation.

The birds used in the present investigation were trapped locally and maintained under uniform husbandry condition in the laboratory.

A number of adult and juvenile birds of both sexes were gonadectomized, and others were sexed by exploratory laparotomy. The castrates were later checked for any