

the first ones to be seen in the eastern part of Micronesia (Baker, *op. cit.*: 145).—CHARLES F. YOCOM, *Division of Natural Resources, Humboldt State College, Arcata, California.*

Activities of a Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) brood after hatching.—It is generally assumed that after a Mallard brood leaves the nest it will not return. Relatively little seems to be known about what happens to a brood just after leaving the nest. The following information may therefore be of some value.

While making observations on the behavior of Trumpeter Swans (*Olor buccinator*) at Delta, Manitoba, I observed a Mallard brood just after it first left the nest on 26 July 1963 at 1515 hours. I knew the location of the nest, which was situated on a small artificial island, six feet (2 m) in diameter. The brood left the island at a spot where a brood of nearly full-grown Mallards was feeding. Two of the newly emerged ducklings were attacked, with bill jabs, by two members of the older brood as soon as they came within striking distance. This alarmed the hen. She gave loud, drawn-out quacks, and headed back to the nest. Within five minutes all ducklings and the hen had apparently returned safely to the nest, since no peeping of ducklings could be heard. Continuously until 2200 the hen and brood remained on the island. A check at 1900 disclosed that the hen and her brood were sitting two feet from the nest.

On 27 July, I made observations between 0730 and 1150. At 0855 the hen was leaving the island with her brood. At 0858 they passed the brood of nearly full-grown Mallards (the only other brood on the pond), which was loafing at a distance of less than three feet. The younger brood was not attacked. Again at 0944 the loafing brood was passed at the same distance, but no attack took place. At 0950 the young brood returned to the island and at 1010 they were back on the nest, being brooded by the hen. At 1012 the brood left the island, but returned at 1052 and settled down by 1055. A check at 1105 showed the brood again on the nest. At 1136 the brood was on the pond. On 28 July at 0730, the brood was seen loafing on the island, and on 29 July at 0730 the brood was seen leaving the island. These observations suggest that perhaps again some time was spent on the nest. During the balance of 29 July, the brood was seen either on the pond or on land and no sign of friction with the older brood was observed.

These observations indicate that a newly emerged brood of Mallards is (1) initially attacked but subsequently tolerated by an older, resident brood, and that (2) it may return to its nest at least several times after emergence.—A. DE VOS, *Department of Zoology, Ontario Agricultural College, Federated Colleges, Guelph, Ontario, Canada.*

Some records from Bermuda affecting the A.O.U. Check-list.—In an earlier note (*Auk*, 75: 359–360, 1958) I reported a record of the House Martin (*Delichon urbica*), and the breeding of wild Canaries (*Serinus canarius*) on Bermuda. The following additional records, based on specimens and supplementing the A.O.U. Check-list (fifth edit., 1957), have been obtained since 1958. The specimens concerned are now in the collections of the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

Dotterel (*Eudromias morinellus*).—I took a single specimen (B187 in my catalogue), male, testes 4 mm in length, in breeding plumage and just beginning to molt, bearing no subcutaneous fat and slightly emaciated, on Riddell's Bay Golf Course, Warwick Parish, on 16 September 1958. The condition of the bird suggested a long overwater

journey, possibly all the way from Europe. This is apparently the first record of this species from the western side of the Atlantic.

Large-billed Tern (*Phaetusa simplex*).—I obtained a single specimen (B340 in my catalogue), female, ovary 8 mm and ova up to 0.5 mm in diameter, in non-breeding plumage, weighing 192 g, and bearing little subcutaneous fat, at Spittal Pond in Smith's Parish on 14 June 1961. The stomach contained eight *Gambusia* sp., which it had just been catching in the manner characteristic of the species. The occurrence of this South American tern on Bermuda was perhaps the result of extreme northward wandering during the post-breeding period. This seems to be the first specimen of *P. simplex* taken within the area covered by the A.O.U. Check-list. Bond (*Check-list of birds of the West Indies*, Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1956; p. 61) records only one accidental from the West Indies (Cuba).

West Indian Martin (*Progne dominicensis dominicensis*).—I found an adult male (B232 in my catalogue), testes 4 mm in length, with no subcutaneous fat, and weighing 32.4 g, in an exhausted condition on the south shore of Southampton Parish on 17 January 1959. I am indebted to Eugene Eisenmann for examining and identifying the specimen. According to Bond (*op. cit.*: 116) the winter quarters of all races of *P. dominicensis* remain unknown. It would seem plausible, nevertheless, to regard the Bermuda specimen as a northward-bound spring migrant which accidentally overshot the West Indies while returning from winter quarters to the south. Although the date is extremely early for a spring migrant, some support for this hypothesis comes from the following three observations: the moderately enlarged testes of the specimen concerned; the observation by the writer of *P. dominicensis* entering nest hollows in dead trees on La Selle Ridge, Haiti, on 28 January 1963; and the fact that the closely related Purple Martin (*Progne subis*) of eastern North America is characteristically among the earliest vagrants to Bermuda in spring, occurring often in early March.

I am grateful to Dean Amadon and Eugene Eisenmann for their assistance in checking these specimens against the adequate comparative material at the American Museum of Natural History.—DAVID B. WINGATE, *P.O. Box 437, Hamilton, Bermuda*.

Ancient Murrelet taken in Illinois.—On 16 November 1962, a bird found on a gravel road about five miles northeast of Macomb, Illinois (McDonnough County), was brought to Western Illinois University where it was identified by the author as an Ancient Murrelet (*Synthliborhamphus antiquum*). Apparently the bird had sustained an injury to its wing. It was in poor physical condition and subsequently died. The specimen was presented to Paul W. Parmalee, Curator at the Illinois State Museum at Springfield, who verified the identification. It was a subadult female weighing 123.5 g (after freezing). The skin was placed in the museum collection.

According to the A.O.U. Check-list (fifth edit., 1957), there are only a few records of the Ancient Murrelet from the interior of the United States. To my knowledge this is the first record for Illinois.—TERRY BALDING, *Department of Biological Sciences, Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois*.