

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 (McDonough 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*.