

GENERAL NOTES

The cotypes of *Zosterops E. Newtoni* Hartlaub.—Recently F. Gill and I reported (*Occas. Papers Mus. Zool., Univ. Michigan*, no. 648, p. 2, 1966) an unsuccessful attempt to find the cotypes of *Zosterops E. Newtoni* in the Cambridge University Museum. Since then, Mr. C. W. Benson has found these specimens in the Newton Collection at Cambridge and kindly permitted me to examine them. The gray bird (27. Zos. . . 6) is typical of the gray race of the upland heaths and savannas and is hereby designated lectotype of *Zosterops E. Newtoni*, which Gill and I have emended to *edwardnewtoni* and considered a race of *Zosterops borbonica*. Our allocation of the brown specimen (27. Zos. . . 5) to our new subspecies *alopekion* appears fully justified. Both specimens have identical original data: "1871. C. E. Bewsher. Reunion." Both have been marked "Type" and "Z. E. Newtoni, Hartl"; and "— ad. ♂" has been added in pencil to the label of the gray bird, probably as a result of the describer's guess that the gray bird was a male and the brown one a female.

Our restriction of the type locality of *edwardnewtoni* to Nez de Boeuf, 5 kilometers east of le Vingt-Septième, will stand unless more detailed evidence concerning the locality where Bewsher obtained the birds is found. Mr. Benson tells me that there are no notes by Bewsher with the collection.—ROBERT W. STORER, *The University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan*.

Young Curve-billed Thrasher attended by adult Brown Towhee.—On the morning of 2 October 1966 at the foot of the Black Mesa, about 3 miles northeast of Kenton, Cimarron County, Oklahoma, my ornithology class of 20 persons, an assistant, 2 visitors, and I watched for about 20 minutes a recently fledged Curve-billed Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre*) that associated closely with, and appeared to receive food from, an adult Brown Towhee (*Pipilo fuscus*). Our attention was called to the thrasher, which was perched near the top of a large clump of arborescent "cholla" cactus (*Opuntia imbricata*), by its noticeable, rather loud call note, a *chack* or *check* wholly unlike the well known sharp, clearly enunciated *whit-it* of the adult Curve-billed Thrasher.

Puzzled by seeing a young thrasher at so late a date, I asked my companions to remain where they were while I approached the bird. When I was about 20 paces away it stopped calling and, headed in my direction, flew to the ground and moved awkwardly to the bottom of a shallow canyon. Here it fluttered its wings at a Brown Towhee which responded almost immediately by hopping toward the thrasher and jabbing its bill into the young bird's mouth. This "feeding" was accompanied by an impetuous squeal from the thrasher. The *chack*, which was probably a food cry, stopped while the two birds moved about on the ground within a few inches of each other.

Presently the towhee hopped into the shade of a dense one-seeded juniper (*Juniperus monosperma*), followed closely by the thrasher. When the young bird came into full view again, the towhee was with it. The thrasher's food cries were infrequent while it was on the ground.

The thrasher now flew to a large rock upslope about 30 feet away. Here it resumed the food cry, repeating the syllable with considerable regularity about every three seconds. The light yellow of the mouth-lining was visible each time the bird called. Soon the towhee flounced up beside it with crest raised, obviously curious or excited, but not—so far as we could see—with food in its bill.

I decided to collect the thrasher, which proved to be a female with much-sheathed rectrices about 2.5 inches long. The eyes were dull yellowish gray. I found no trace of food in the stomach or gullet. Otherwise the specimen was in good condition, though not at all fat.

During the hour of our stay no member of our party saw or heard another Curve-billed Thrasher, either adult or young. We saw only the one Brown Towhee in the vicinity, and this bird gave no cry of alarm or protest.

I have found several nests of *T. curvirostre* near Kenton, all of them in spring or summer. The latest of them, found 5 June 1936, held three small young on that date (Sutton, 1936, *Auk*, 53: 434). The species is probably two-brooded.—GEORGE MIKSCHE SUTTON, *Department of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.*

A third specimen of the Brown Thrasher from California.—On 3 November 1966 I caught a Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) in a bird trap at the Hastings Reservation, 2½ miles east of Jamesburg, northern Monterey County, California. I collected the bird (Museum of Vertebrate Zoology No. 156,673) which was a first-year female with worn, pointed rectrices and small "windows" in the skull. It weighed 62.1 g, the ovary was 6 mm long and inactive, and only traces of subcutaneous fat were present, suggesting that the bird might have been in the general area for some time prior to capture.

Although there are a number of sight records of this species for California, this is only the third specimen collected in the state. One, from Death Valley, Inyo County (Wauer, *Condor*, 62: 297, 1960), was found dead and its condition precluded subspecific identification. A specimen collected at Cottonwood Spring, Joshua Tree National Monument, Riverside County, by W. C. Russell (*Condor*, 49: 131, 1947), was identified as *T. r. longicauda*. The present specimen was forwarded to Richard F. Johnston of the University of Kansas Museum of Natural History who, after comparison with material there, assigned it to the pale, western population currently recognized as *longicauda*.

In addition to the three specimen records, search of Grinnell and Miller (Pacific Coast Avifauna, No. 27, 1944), *The Auk*, *The Condor*, *The Wilson Bulletin*, *Audubon Magazine*, and *Audubon Field Notes* yielded a total of 13 sight records of this species in California. This excludes a Christmas census record, given without comment, of two Brown Thrashers seen in northeastern Orange County (*Aud. Field Notes*, 6: 170, 1952). In their recent summary of Californian records of this species, McCaskie, Stallcup, and DeBenedictis (*Condor*, 69: 310) failed to consider at least three published records. For the sake of completeness, and to provide background for the analysis of migration presented beyond, the total of 16 records I obtained from all sources are listed from northwest to southeast as follows: Clear Lake, Lake County; Point Reyes Lighthouse, Marin County; Lodi, San Joaquin County; mouth of Carmel River, Monterey County; 2 miles south of Big Sur, Monterey County; Hastings Reservation, Monterey County; Granite Station, 20 miles east of Famoso, Kern County (not Granite Spur, Riverside County, as suggested by McCaskie, Stallcup, and DeBenedictis, *loc. cit.*); Death Valley, Inyo County (2); Hollywood, Los Angeles County; Altadena, Los Angeles County; Pomona, Los Angeles County; Cottonwood Spring, Riverside County; and San Diego, San Diego County (3). Eleven of the 16 records fall between 3 September and 3 November. This, together with the fact that both Russell's specimens and mine are of first-year birds, suggests that the majority of records are of young birds wandering soon after they have become independent.