

consider the matter of sufficient value to place it on record, saying to me that it was only a cage bird, imposed on the Museum by the previous curator and it should be destroyed. Having a desire to get to the bottom of the matter, I inquired of both Belding and Bryant, asking for full particulars. It was well known to many of Mr. Belding's friends that while in San Francisco he made daily calls at the game market, to see what strange species might be found. He said that the Red-necked Brant was tied with several of the local species, received from the hunters, supposedly from the wheat fields of the country to the north of the city. Mr. Bryant said that when he skinned it he found plenty of shot in the body, indicating that if it was a cage bird someone went to the trouble to take it out and target a shotgun on it before putting it in with the regular shipment of native geese! Neither of the above men were in doubt but that the bird was an accidental visitor to our shores and the species fully entitled to a place among our birds. The logical theory was that it had become separated from its fellows in Siberia and joined a flock of our native species, migrating south along the North American coast with them. Unfortunately, the skin was lost in the fire that destroyed the entire Academy collection, and it will never be known, further than these few notes, just the status of that specimen.—A. W. ANTHONY, *San Diego Museum of Natural History, San Diego, California, May 6, 1929.*

**A Record of *Tyrannus melancholicus occidentalis* for the State of Washington.**—The recent record by Kermode (CONDOR, 30, July, 1928, p. 251) of the taking of "*Tyrannus melancholicus satrapa* (Cabanis and Heine)" on Vancouver Island, recalls the fact that there is in the Dickey collection at the California Institute of Technology, a male of the year of *Tyrannus melancholicus occidentalis* Hartert and Goodson, collected by Carl Lien in "Jefferson County", Washington, on November 18, 1916. It is now no. 22269 of the Dickey collection. This specimen was purchased by Mr. Dickey from Paul Trapier as part of a general collection of Washington birds mostly taken by Mr. Lien. It was labelled by the original collector as "Ash-throated Flycatcher".

The specimen here recorded is somewhat soot-stained, but is clearly of the west-Mexican race which differs from the Central American in having paler, less intensely yellow underparts and slightly larger bill. Except for the darker tinge caused by soot-stain, it is very similar to two birds from Escuinapa, Sinaloa. It may be pointed out that Hellmayr (Birds of the Americas, 1927, p. 109) has shown that *Laphyetes satrapa* Cabanis and Heine is a synonym of *Tyrannus couchii* Baird and that the proper name of the race ranging from southern Mexico south through Central America is *Tyrannus melancholicus chloronotus* Berlepsch.

In view of the subspecific status of the Washington bird, it would appear that a re-examination of Mr. Kermode's specimen is desirable. Logically, it should be of the north-west Mexican race rather than the Central American race.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, May 25, 1929.*