

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Tennessee Warblers in Marin County, California.—An unusually heavy migration of warblers occurred during the fall of 1944 through Marin County, California, and the water traps nearest our warbler aviary at Manor produced a number of surprises, not the least of which were four examples of the Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*). The first bird was taken on the morning of September 16, 1944. Not being familiar with this eastern species, it was banded and placed in a holding cage pending identification, which was subsequently accomplished without difficulty. Other Tennessee Warblers were seen in shrubbery adjacent to the aviaries on the same and subsequent days, and another individual was trapped on September 19. A third Tennessee Warbler was taken on September 24, and although others were occasionally seen on the grounds in the following fortnight, the fourth individual was not caught until October 15.

Because of the rarity of the species in California, it was determined to keep all four birds for aviary purposes. Much to our surprise, we found this species to be among the easiest of the whole warbler group to "break off," a term used for the technique of weaning captive birds from a natural to an artificial diet.

These warblers were carried over the winter in a separate aviary compartment in the large heated shelter and were not released into the warbler aviary proper until late April of this year. At the date of this writing they are showing signs of an early summer molt, not an unusual occurrence with adult migrants trapped in the preceding fall and wintered over in heated quarters. They are very much like our Orange-crowned Warblers (*Vermivora celata*) both in action and behavior, and this is particularly noticeable under the conditions imposed by the aviary.

Upon death, they will be made into skins to complete the record.—ERIC CAMPBELL KINSEY, Manor, Marin County, California, June 6, 1945.

Nesting of the Goshawk in Sequoia National Park, California.—On June 20, 1945, Ranger Clarence Fry told me about a Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) that had that morning swooped at his car when he parked near the government corrals near Giant Forest, Sequoia National Park. The place is in the upper Transition life-zone. The next morning Fry and I visited the corrals and were again attacked by a female Goshawk that charged savagely near us several times before she flew away. I soon discovered the nest about 60 feet up and 6 feet out on a limb of a white fir. By going up the side of the mountain one could almost see into the nest but could not quite do so because of some fresh fir twigs on the edge of the platform. Neither eggs nor young birds could be seen.

On June 27, when I again visited the nest, three downy young birds of noticeably different sizes could be seen wabbling about on the platform. The parents were calling near-by and the female parent was seen to fly away with unidentified prey in her talons. The nest was visited almost daily for short periods thereafter until July 12, when most of the day was spent observing it. On these visits the identified prey brought to the nest comprised a golden-mantled ground squirrel (*Citellus lateralis*), a Red-shafted Flicker (*Colaptes cafer*), and a Steller Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri*). Once as the female was perched about 30 feet above me she was seen to fly swiftly into the thick branches of a near-by fir about 40 feet above the ground. After a few seconds, during which her wings could be heard beating against the small branches, she emerged with a squirming Sierra chipmunk (*Eutamias speciosus*) dangling from her talons. Twenty minutes later she brought the prey to the nest. She made no sound as she tore the chipmunk into pieces for the squealing young birds as they avidly pecked at the mother's beak for bits of the freshly killed mammal. The old bird was not frightened and did not stop feeding the young birds as I walked or stood in plain sight less than 75 feet away. The meal lasted for 35 minutes, after which the old bird flew away and perched in the top of a dead tree. After the meal each of the young birds was seen to back to the edge of the platform and forcefully defecate beyond the edge of the nest.

The two largest of the young birds left the nest some time between July 26 and July 28. Mr. Wayne Trimm, who made a study and several paintings of this Goshawk family, found the smallest of the young birds dead beneath the tree on July 29.

This nest is a new southern record for the Goshawk in California. The most southerly nesting station recorded heretofore was found in Whitaker's Forest, Tulare County, according to Grinnell and Miller (*The Distribution of the Birds of California, 1944:97*). The nest described here is some 10 miles south of Whitaker's Forest.—LLOYD G. INGLES, Fresno State College, Fresno, California, August 2, 1945.

Land Birds at Sea.—In the late autumn of 1943 I saw four species of North American land birds at unusual distances from land. I was aboard a ship steaming northward along the Pacific coast.